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Lebanon

A Lebanese Forces (LF) statement carried by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon 31 May warned that the Syrian "occupation authorities" are planning to carry out "operations similar to the booby-trapped car explosion in Al-Rumayl in other areas of Lebanon in order to sow sedition."

Claiming that the side responsible for the Al-Rumayl bombing is "known to all the Lebanese," the LF pledged that its response to this attack will "not be against the innocent but against the occupationists."

A car bomb exploded near a Fatah dissidents' center in West Beirut the following day, causing material damage, Beirut radio reported. As for the southern suburb, the radio noted that Syrian forces continued to consolidate security amid a calm atmosphere. The Amal Movement and Hizballah exchanged prisoners, with Hizballah releasing 126 detainees in return for 35 held by Amal.

On the issue of the foreign hostages, an Islamic fundamentalist source in Beirut cited by the UAE's AL-ITTIHAD affirmed that they are still in the suburb and that their locations were changed many times during the recent fighting. AL-SAFIR quoted East Beirut sources as saying that the four kidnapped professors from Beirut University College may be released soon.

Israel

Acts of brutality by troops and degradation of Palestinians constitute the "chief cause" of the continuation of the uprising in the territories, according to a "senior government source" cited by Jerusalem radio. The official expressed this view in an official document which was referred to by Citizens Rights Movement Knesset members at a Knesset committee hearing. Knesset member Yosi Sarid charged that the use of excess force by soldiers has become the norm, and that sentences of soldiers convicted of misconduct are sometimes "ridiculous."

In a related development, a military court passed sentence on an IDF corporal who was found guilty of beating Arab residents in Nabulus, the radio noted. The man was demoted and received a 1 and 1/2 month jail term as well as a longer suspended sentence. Meanwhile, the IDF disclosed that the number of local residents killed since the beginning of the uprising stands at 207, the radio reported.

Mine Off UAE Coast

A UAE official cited by WAKH announced that a fishing boat was destroyed in a sea mine explosion off Khawr Fakkan, a port on the UAE's eastern seaboard south of the Strait of Hormuz. One of the Indian fishermen aboard was killed and two others were injured.

Saudi Arabia-PLO

King Fahd received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Jeddah, SPA reported.

Palestinian Affairs

'Uprising' Issues 'Civil Disobedience' Statement

JN2805093088 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 0706 GMT 28 May 88

[Statement issued by "the national popular committees, the uprising leadership, and the national key figures in Palestine," entitled: "No Voice Rises Above the Voice of the Uprising. Civil Disobedience"—read by announcer; date not given]

[Text] O masses of our great people: Your glorious uprising is consolidating its accomplishments daily. The sacrifices of our people, the blood of martyrs and wounded, and the suffering of detainees and deportees prompts us to proceed toward the attainment of our people's national aims, headed by the termination of the usurping occupation and the accomplishment of our national independence.

There is no doubt that civil disobedience is considered an advanced stage of your great uprising. It is the most effective means to exhaust the occupation authorities and shorten the path leading to the attainment of our people's rights to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of a national independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Your glorious uprising is continuing and escalating despite some obstacles and gaps which emerge here and there and despite some signs of confusion and the difficulties of fully accomplishing some of the slogans raised by the uprising. Nevertheless, there is a national and popular consensus that there should be no retreat because retreat means destruction which nobody can endure. There is also a national and popular consensus that the uprising is making quick strides toward civil disobedience throughout the occupied homeland.

Therefore, and to avoid obstacles as much as possible and place our feet on the right path, we should first and foremost realize what civil disobedience is and what its horizons and tools are. Civil disobedience basically means separation from the occupation authority and its tools and rejection of abiding by or dealing with occupation regulations and laws and, consequently, defying these laws by escalating the uprising in line with the aims of the national masses' authority that is independent of the occupation authorities through the following:

1. Refraining from dealing with all the occupation organs such as courts, petitions, civil administration departments, the military government, and appointed municipal and village committees.

2. Replacing the occupation police, health, social, and educational services organs with popular bodies that will supervise and run these areas.

3. Boycotting Zionist goods and markets and depending basically on national products and the national popular economy.

4. Refraining from paying taxes and fees to the occupation authorities.

5. Completely ceasing work in Zionist projects and facilities.

6. Burning, at a later stage, the Zionist identification cards.

7. Disobedience will be accompanied in all phases by a distinguished escalation in militant struggle and with the effective participation of all sectors of our people.

Waging civil disobedience will not be easy. Our masses should implement this phase with all strength and determination, enduring the sacrifices and consequences resulting from it. Citizens will be forced to temporarily sacrifice all manifestations of luxury and relaxation. These will be replaced by an austere life which is different from the life they have been used to. The consequences of civil disobedience can be viewed on two levels:

The first is linked with the stoppage of a large part of financial income as a result of refraining from work in Zionist institutions and even refusing to work in local projects.

The second is represented by the measures which the Zionist authorities will take as punishment and in reaction to the disobedience. Among these measures are not supplying the occupied territory with fuel, water, and electricity and preventing transportation and movement in the West Bank and Gaza. This will result in using primitive sources of energy such as firewood and depending on water wells and springs. The Zionist authoriteis could also expand the circle of collective repression through the imposed occupation measures.

The responsibility of our masses and their national bodies is to put at the top of their priorities work to provide the bases of success for the civil disobedience and to prepare its necessary tools represented by the following:

1. Spreading the spirit of cooperation, sacrifice, and equality among the citizens; developing a giving and militant spirit against the occupation; insisting on confrontation regardless of the sacrifices; habituating the citizens to economize consumption; and making avaialble only the basic requirements such as rice, flour, children's milk, sugar, vitamins, kerosene, wheat, and all types of grain.

2. Continuing work to develop the independent popular and national economy in the service of the uprising whether on the level of home economy or district cooperative societies for production. Within this framework,

particular importance should be attached to forming and establishing popular committees and specialized subcommittees to cover all areas.

These committees are the instruments of steadfastness for the disobedience and the mechanism of the authority which is independent from the occupation authority. These committees are responsible for embarking on a militant role to make the uprising and the civil disobedience successful, as well as to carry out the following tasks:

A. The daily tasks; that is, matters related to daily life, by forming:

1. Guard and security committees to protect the citizens' security and safeguard their property.

2. Popular teaching committees to compensate our students as a result of the enemy's closure of our schools.

3. Health committees to meet local health needs and to treat emergency cases. This requires establishing a modern clinic in every district.

4. Supply committees to supervise the local distribution of basic supplies and to distribute them among the needy when necessary.

5. Agricultural committees to look after the popular committees' needs and to guide citizens.

6. Family solidarity committees.

7. Awareness and information committees to fight tendentious rumors the occupation is trying to spread.

B. Support militant tasks: Tasks such as supervising the storage of basic supplies in every house to meet local needs for long periods, filling local wells with water for reserve use during water cuts, providing kerosene lanterns and storing large quantities of kerosene for use during power cuts, providing flashlights, and conducting surveys on all services and becoming acquainted with requirements.

C. Direct militant tasks: These tasks must come as a result of the completion of the work of popular committees and their achievement of previous tasks. The direct militant tasks require, before anything else, enhancing militant and confrontation readiness against the occupation and its instruments and overcoming fear of the repressive authority's measures.

This requires turning committees into effective and direct militant instruments for the unified leadership and expanding the basis of confrontation against the occupation so as to include the overwhelming majority of our people.

Among these tasks are taking part with popular committees in implementing activities such as blocking off roads, hoisting Palestinian flags, confronting the fascist occupation forces when they enter local areas or attempt to detain one of their sons, and taking part in all comprehensive popular demonstrations and sit-ins called for by the unified leadership.

O masses of our people, the Unified National Leadership affirms to you while you are at the threshold of civil disobedience that disobedience is not a magic word which, when barely spoken, will make the occupation authorities respond to demands.

Disobedience is an advanced militant stage which effectively influences the authorities of the racist occupation and its allies, headed by the U.S. imperialism, on the path of achieving our people's national legitimate rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. God be with us., Victory is imminent. Together we march on the path of liberating land and man.

Al-Quds, the Palestinian Arab radio on the path of liberating land and man, experimental transmission.

'Uprising' Leadership Issues 'Call No 18'

JN2905175288 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1625 GMT 29 May 88

["Call No 18, call of the Palestinian child, issued by the PLO, the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising" — date, place not given]

[Text] O masses of our heroic people, who have destroyed the illusions of occupation in more than 20 years, who have refuted the claims about our people's coexistence with occupation, and who have destroyed all attempts to create feeble alternatives to our people's sole legitimate representative, the PLO, through destroying alternatives to the right to repatriation, to self- determination, and to an independent national state: You continue to proceed on the road through your suffering, through the huge sacrifices, and through the constant flow of blood on the road to achieving freedom and independence for our militant people.

Here is the victorious uprising destroying the apparatus and tools of the fascist occuaption, which were established to serve the occupation's interests and to link the interests of our people's masses with the occupation. On the ruins of these tools you are building the apparatus of the heroic people's authority through the popular committees with their various tasks.

Here is the uprising restoring to our national cause its natural size as the cause of a people who are struggling for the sake of their legitimate national rights. This cause has thus become an important topic on the agenda of the Moscow summit as well as the major topic at the summit of the uprising in Algiers.

O our heroic Palestinian people, while marking these days—the 22d anniversary of the Arab regimes' defeat and of the occupation of the remainder of our dear homeland, amid the convening of the Moscow summit and the Arab summit and also in view of George Shultz' attempts to resume the conspiracy aimed at aborting the uprising—our people's masses are daily escalating their victorious uprising. There will be no return nor will there be any retreat until occupation is removed and an independent Palestinian state is established under the PLO's leadership.

Our masses know their path through revolution to obtain their rights. It is the path of persistent struggle. More than 20 years of coercion, persecution, oppression, and attempts to liquidate our identity and our people's national cause have created the generation of the uprising—the generation of freedom, independence, and of building an independent national state on its sacred national soil. This generation is determined to make occupation pay a dear price for desecrating our land and holy places. It is also determined to turn occupation into a hell that will burn the occupying soldiers and settlers.

The Unified National Leadership of the Uprising calls on our masses to further escalate the delivery of painful blows to the new Nazis and to further entrench and organize the generation of the uprising and its specialized committees and strike teams along the path of carrying out a comprehensive civil disobedience and fulfilling the slogans and just demands of the uprising as a basic introduction to wrest our people's national legitimate rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state.

These slogans and demands include the need to implement the four Geneva Conventions; dispatch international observers to provide the necessary protection for the sons of our people; withdraw the army from the cities, villages, and camps; lift the siege clamped on them; release the detainees; return deportees to their homeland; cancel the taxes and other laws and legislations enacted by the occupation authorities; hold democratic elections for the municipal and village councils; and remove restrictions imposed on our national production to allow for the building and developing of the industrial, agricultural, and services sectors.

The PLO, the Unified National Leadership, along with our people's masses, while waging a tough struggle within a firmly established national unity, calls on the Arab summit leaders to shoulder their responsibilities before their peoples and history by supporting this Palestinian struggle not through denunciation, condemnation, and verbal backing, but by:

1. Adopting a clear and unified political stand before the whole world in support of the PLO and the soleness and legitimacy of its representation of our people and providing all means of support enabling our people to continue their struggle.

2. Rejecting all liquidationist solutions, headed by the Shultz initiative, and insisting on the need to hold a fully empowered international conference with the participation of the PLO in an independent delegation just like the other parties.

3. Releasing political prisoners from Arab prisons, giving democratic freedoms to the Arab masses so they can act in solidarity and cohesion with our people's triumphant uprising, and allowing for fedayeen action across Arab borders in the direction of occupied Palestine.

Along the path of implementing a comprehensive civil disobedience, the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, the PLO, emphasizes the following:

— The need for the immediate resignation of workers in traffic and licensing departments, organization and housing departments, and identity cards and people's registration offices. After the occupation authorities have been forced to reopen schools, it is essential to reprogram the curriculum to compensate the students for what they missed, especially secondary school students in their final year. We trust that schools will continue to be the strong citadels of the uprising. Popular education should play a complementary role in raising our students' efficiency. — Total withholding of cooperation with the institutions through which the occupation seeks to restrict the movement of the population by boycotting certifications of good conduct and relevant official documents and refusing to have dealings with defeatists and appointed agent municipal committees. Here, it should be emphasized that the popular committees in every location are called upon to mobilize the population for a commitment to this patriotic stand.

— Banning the payment of all kinds of taxes, boycotting Zionist goods — industrial or agricultural — and completely withholding labor from Zionist settlements.

— Refusal by our sons in the [Gaza] Strip to receive the new identity cards. The popular committees are called upon to play a mobilizing role toward that end to consolidate the boycott and in compliance with PLO resolutions — the Unified Leadership of the Uprising.

— An intensification of the formation and organization of popular committees, neighborhood committees, health committees, sentry committees, security committees, agricultural committees, mobilization guidance committees, information committees, and strike forces — the miltant arm of the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, as well as the economic committees, and encouraging, developing, and entrenching household agriculture and rationalized consumption and spending.

— Directing and intensifying blows to dissenters from the will of our people in the appointed village and city council committees, customs offices, and police and

intensifying the use of the means of popular struggle beginning with the stone and ending with the gasoline bomb against all the enemies.

O masses of our struggling people, the PLO — the Unified National Leadership — calls on all segments of our people to mark the following days with sweeping mass anger coinciding with forthcoming political events by executing and implementing the following militant activities:

First, dedicating 28 and 29 May to massive marches and rallies involving all national cadres, organizations, and personalities so our voice — the voice of the uprising — may be heard loud and clear by the superpower leaders in Moscow.

Second, dedicating 30 May to an all-out strike and raising the pitch of the militant struggle to mark the Gorbachev-Reagan summit and increasing the writing of nationalist slogans and raising flags in all villages, cities and camps.

Third, dedicating 1 June — International Children's Day — to children's demonstrations raising Palestinian slogans and flags. In the meantime, various committees, especially committees of solidarity with victims of our people, will distribute gifts to the children of the martyrs, the wounded, detainees, and deportees.

Fourth, dedicating 3, 4, 5, and 6 June to full-scale strikes to mark the [Mideast] visit of Shultz, the Lebanese invasion, and the 22d [as heard] anniversary of the Zionist occupation. In the meantime, our masses and strike forces will stage demonstrations and confrontations with occupiers and their agents. May the land scorch the feet of the usurping occupiers and their agents.

Fifth, dedicating 7 June to Arab solidarity with the glorious uprising of our people, holding massive demonstrations, and urging Arab masses to stage rallies of sympathy with our victorious uprising.

[Signed] The PLO — the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, 28 May 1988

Al-Quds Notes 'Points' of 'Statement No 18'

JN2905093738 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 0744 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Sister struggler, brother struggler: Al-Quds radio, the Palestinian Arab radio on the path of liberating the land and man, takes you to the heart of the Palestinian event as soon as it occurs and brings to you the Palestinian event as soon as it is reported.

Al-Quds radio was the first to broadcast the statement on readiness to proclaim civil disobedience. Yesterday, Al-Quds radio as always was the first to broadcast the uprising's statements. Al-Quds radio is always the first radio to report on the uprising's events. Yesterday, we were the first to broadcast the most important points of Statement No 18. We now rebroadcast the most important points of that statement. Please record or write down these points:

1. Today, Sunday 29 May, is a day for holding big marches and demonstrations in which all national bodies and figures will take part so that our voice, the voice of the uprising, will be conveyed loud and clear to the summit leaders in Moscow.

2. Tomorrow, 30 May, will be a day of total strike and escalation of struggle on the occasion of the Gorbachev-Reagan summit. The writing of nationalist slogans will be intensified and flags will be flown in all villages, cities, and refugee camps.

3. Children's marches will be held on 1 June, World Child Day, during which Palestinian slogans and flags will be raised. Various committees, particularly the committees for solidarity with those of our people who have suffered losses, will present gifts to the children of martyrs, the wounded, detainees, and deportees.

4. A total strike will be held on 3, 4, and 5 June on the occasion of Shultz' visit, the invasion of Lebanon, and the 21st anniversary of the Zionist occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The masses of our people and our action forces will hold demonstrations and will confront the occupation authorities and their agents. Let the ground burn beneath the fascist occupier and his agents.

5. The 7th of June will be a day of Arab solidarity with our people's glorious uprising. Mammoth demonstrations will be held. The Arab masses are called upon to demonstrate in support of our victorious revolution.

God is with us. Victory is at hand. Together along the path of liberating the land and man.

Palestinian Factions Meet, Discuss Situation

JN3106193288 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The central command of the Palestinian resistance factions met yesterday, Monday, at the PNC headquarters in Damascus. Attending the meeting were brothers and comrades Khalid al-Fahum, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Dr Samir Ghawshah, Talal Naji, Muhammad Khalifah, Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, Sami Gandil, Abu Layl, and Abu Jasim.

The command discussed what was implemented in the camps in Lebanon, the steps taken to restore the situation there to normal, and the general political situation, foremost being the new stage of the uprising, the popular tumultuous revolution in Palestine.

Algeria

Bendjedid Receives UAE Oil Minister

LD2905210888 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 29 May 88

[Excerpt] The oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, who arrived in Algiers this afternoon, has been received by President Chadli Bendjedid, to whom he delivered a message from Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. During his stay, Mr al-'Utayba will hold talks with Mr Belkacem Nabi about the latest developments which have occurred in the international oil market and on preparations for the approaching OPEC conference in Vienna on 8 June. [passage omitted]

Cooperation Agreement With Albania Signed

LD3105014288 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] The joint Algerian-Albanian committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation concluded its first session at the Foreign Ministry this evening with the signing of cooperation agreements in the agricultural, commercial, scientific, and technical fields.

The agreements were signed on the Algerian side by Agriculture Minister Mohamed Rouighi and Trade Minister Mohamed Cherifi. On the Albanian side they were signed by Agriculture Minister Themie Thomai.

Mrs Thomai has been in Algeria since last Wednesday and has held talks with senior Algerian officials. She has also been received by Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and party secretary general.

Chad

Habre 'Receptive' to Al-Qadhdhafi Proposals

AB2705215488 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Correspondent Moussa Dago reports from Addis Ababa with explanations on the response of the president of the Republic concerning Al-Qadhdhafi's statement:

[Begin recording] The president of the Republic replied to Al-Qadhdhafi's statements point by point. Thus, he said that the recognition of the Chadian Government by Libya was a positive development, while at the same time stressing that Ndjamena has always sought to normalize its relations with Tripoli. Chad is going even further than this by proposing to Libya mutual recognition and the establishment of diplomatic relations as well as exploring the basis for brotherly and friendly cooperation.

Concerning Libya's participation in the reconstruction of Chad, President Hissein Habre greeted this favorably, while pointing out that Libya would thus be repairing the damage it has been causing in Chad for 8 years now, and not only since the beginning of the events of Aozou and Matan al-Sarra in 1987 as the Libyans are claiming.

Moreover, he expressed satisfaction with the fact that Al-Qadhdhafi is acknowledging, for the first time, the heavy price paid by the Chadian people along with the Libyan people during the invasion by the (?fascist) troops (?from Libya).

On the other hand, the head of state categorically rejected the idea of a reconciliation with Goukouni under the auspices of Libya. He said that this reveals, unfortunately, the unreasonable desire of Al-Qadhdhafi to interfere in Chad's internal affairs, something which our country certainly cannot permit anyone to do.

Finally, he noted that the Libyan colonel has, no doubt purposely, avoided referring to the essential core of the matter, and of all these debates, that is, the Aozou question.

In any event, he concluded, his statement is at least a noble declaration of intentions. History will soon tell us whether it is indeed a matter of noble intentions or, on the contrary, of opportunistic maneuvers and diversions.

To sum up, El Hadj Hissein Habre was receptive to the new formula advocated by the OAU and also to the apparently conciliatory proposals of Al-Qadhdhafi. Nevertheless, this receptiveness is tempered with a certain amount of prudence. As long as the Libyan intentions have not been acted on, it is premature to talk of any positive development in this conflict.

The debates on the Chad-Libya conflict continued this morning but this time before a restricted committee of heads of state who no doubt will prepare a (?review) of this conflict. [end recording]

Meeting Discussed

AB2805143288 Paris AFP in French 1145 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Addis Ababa, 28 May (AFP)—Chadian President Hissein Habre said here today that he was prepared to meet Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al- Qadhdhafi unconditionally. But he made it clear that such a meeting would be on the Chad-Libya conflict and not on reconciliation among Chadians.

"Chad's position is clear, firm, and unambiguous," Mr Habre told journalists. "There is a dispute between Libya and Chad and the OAU ad hoc committee is charged with settling this dispute."

Gaboncse head of state Omar Bongo, who is the chairman of the ad hoc committee, stated yesterday on arrival in Libreville from Addis Ababa that a meeting between

Col al-Qadhdhafi, the Chadian president, and his principal opponent, Goukouni Oueddei, would be held in one of the six member countries of the ad hoc committee (Algeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Senegal).

In a surprise statement on 25 May in Tripoli, the Libyan leader announced his decision to recognize President Habre's regime and Libya's readiness to participate in the reconstruction of Chad and invited Messrs Habre and Goukouni to come to Libya, if they so desired, to achieve reconciliation between them.

"I do not know anything about that summit (announced by President Bongo). The only thing I can affirm is that in pursuance of efforts by the current OAU chairman and by the ad hoc committee, I do not rule out the possibility of a summit between myself and Al-Qadhdhafi," Mr Habre stated.

"A dialogue between both of us can be a good thing. We have set no conditions. If two countries have a problem, it can only be solved through goodwill," he added.

Asked about Col al-Qadhdhafi's failure to mention the Aozou Strip (occupied by Libya since 1973 and claimed by Ndjamena) in his statement, Mr Habre underlined the Libyan leader's silence about what he described as "an important and essential aspect of the Chad-Libya conflict," without anticipating, however, what the future will be.

Finally, the Chadian president warned both against "absolute pessimism and absolute optimism," quoting an African proverb: "Let us not listen to what they are saying but let us watch what they are doing."

Egypt

Paper Details Mediation Efforts With Libya

NC0106090988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Cairo, 1 June (MENA)—In its issue today, AL-AKHBAR publishes the full story of the mediation efforts between Egypt and Libya to improve relations between the two countries. The paper carries the story particularly after the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, the foreign ministry, had issued a statement denying Arab and world media reports on this mediation and asserting that an improvement in relations with the Egyptian regime would mean that "Arab, as well as Egyptian blood, has been shed in vain."

The paper writes that the Libyan statement came as a surprise to observers and diplomats, as well as to all the Arab circles which Al-Qadhdhafi had approached earlier requesting their mediation. The statement, the paper says, came in the wake of YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's attempt to mediate between Egypt and Libya, following President Mubarak's recent visit to Sanaa.

The paper writes that the Yemeni president had informed President Mubarak about the arrival in Sanaa of 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary general of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison [title as received], as Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's special envoy.

President Salih told President Mubarak that the Libyan envoy had complained about Egypt's refusal to improve relations with Libya and requested YAR mediation on the issue.

President Mubarak expressed doubts about Al-Qadhdhafi's intentions, asserting to the Yemeni president that all Egypt was asking was the establishment of good-neighborly relations with Libya. The president added that the Egyptians and Libyans are linked by ties of love and brotherhood, despite the colonel's attempts to mar and harm these relations.

The paper adds that during his meeting with President Mubarak, the Yemeni president presented a working paper which would be viewed as a basis for Egyptian-Libyan negotiations and which included a number of suggestions for improving relations between the two countries. President Mubarak agreed to the Yemeni president's request.

Following President Mubarak's departure for Addis Ababa, Sanaa began contacts with both Cairo and Tripoli to discuss the proposed working paper and to negotiate the points involved.

However, the Yemeni leadership was surprised when the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison issued a statement denouncing media reports about mediation between Egypt and Libya, thus torpedoing President Salih's efforts.

AL-AKHBAR notes that Cairo was not surprised by Libya's behavior, because this was not the first or only mediation attempt. It was preceded by several unsuccessful attempts, the latest of which was that undertaken by UAE President Zayid ibn Sultan Shaykh Al Nuhayyan. That attempted mediation ended with a similar surprise. [passage omitted]

The paper expresses its belief that the goal of these farces on the part of Al-Qadhdhafi is to convince the Libyans of this wish to improve relations with Egypt and the absence of a similar wish on the part of Egypt to improve ties with Libya.

Mubarak Meets Media Leaders on Journalists Day

NC3105191888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Cairo, 31 May (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a frank dialogue with leading Egyptian media figures during a 4-hour meeting today, which marks the fifth Journalists Day. The president fielded questions on topical domestic and foreign issues.

Mubarak began by congratulating the media workers on their day. He then answered a question about investment companies, saying the government does not oppose these companies, but it seeks to regulate their activities to protect investors on the one hand, and guarantee that the funds deposited with these companies are invested in Egypt, in a way benefiting the economy, on the other.

Asked about the apparent slowness in promulgating the law regulating investment companies, the president said that certain priorities have to be considered and studies made. The law, he added, is almost ready and will be enacted before the current People's Assembly session ends. The law will not interfere in the internal organization of these companies, but will ensure that the rights of investors are guaranteed.

The president said: We are hoping these companies will streamline their operations and play a role beneficial to the Egyptian economy. The president's words were cited by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif following the meeting.

Asked several questions about extremism, the president remarked that the phenomenon of extremism is not confined to Egypt, but is known throughout the world. When this phenomenon challenges the law, and when terrorism and destabilization are involved, the hand of the law will be firm in responding, the president said.

As for extremism confined to the realm of thinking, it should be challenged by the media and other state institutions. Newsmen, Mubarak said, should address the young, explaining to them the hazards of extremism and educating them about correct religious thinking.

As for excesses in the media's treatment of certain issues, the president said that this is part of democracy and that the excesses cause no damage. The president said that we hope to entrench democracy and want the people to be able to distinguish between the positive and the negative and correct the excesses [words indistinct].

President Mubarak said: We should not forget that freedom gives us an opportunity to expose any deviation or exploitation. We do not fear freedom so long as the people are aware and so long as the facts are presented.

Responding to a number of questions on increases in prices and the volume of subsidies, President Mubarak said: Subsidies must be maintained within the framework of economic reforms. Our economic situation, including subsidies, must be amended and reformed gradually in the medium- and long-term. This must be accompanied by increases in income and salaries.

The president added: If the volume of subsidies is maintained while consumption and the population continue to increase, this will mean an uncertain future. Future generations will suffer from suffocating economic crises. Hence, we must start with gradual and calm reform. We must also acquaint the citizen with the facts. This is the role of writers and public opinion leaders. They must brief and enlighten the public about the situation, how to deal with it, and the need for and importance of reforms. They must also tell the public of the dangers of proceeding without scientific economic reform.

Minister al-Sharif said that President Mubarak then dealt with various forms and traditions of consumption in Egyptian society and also with the burdens shouldered by the state to satisfy the demands of society. He noted that growth in consumption on the basis of these forms and traditions, particularly if linked with population growth, would add to the burden, which could not be tolerated without planning for reforms.

Regarding the increased price of oil, President Mubarak explained that the difference between oil prices on world markets and on the local market totals 5 billion pounds. Thus, the subsidy for the oil sector represents 5 billion pounds, depriving Egypt of income equaling that sum. The price increase introduced is aimed at minimizing that difference.

President Mubarak explained why the prices of some medicines had been increased. He said: Egyptian, foreign, and joint pharmaceutical companies had almost stopped production because of increased prices for the materials they import. The prices of some medicines have been increased in order to keep them on the market and so that these companies do not stop production. This would have led to importing medicines from abroad, with hard currency at very high prices. The president noted that the price of medicines in Egypt still cannot be compared with the price of imported medicines.

President Mubarak emphasized the need to devote attention within the 5-year plan to infrastructure, as this is the basis for any comprehensive development in industry, agriculture, tourism, and services. The president noted that it was essential to start work on the infrastructure after it had been suspended for some time. In order to do this, he added, we had to obtain loans to upgrade services and modernize and increase production, because the alternative was to stop and suffer more.

The president added that Egypt is not the only country that borrows from abroad, noting that the whole world does so, including the superpowers and developing and advanced states. He added: We have to endure some difficulties for the sake of a better future. He noted the role of the press and mass media in providing the public with the facts.

The president called on all media personnel, whether working in radio or television or for state-run or opposition papers, to devote all their potential to opening the doors to dialogue and debate on ways to streamline the economy and ensure that subsidized commodities reach those who actually deserve them.

Asked about the development plan, the president said: It covers industry, agriculture, tourism, and energy, taking social factors into consideration. He added that the development process covers all governorates, each according to its nature. He pointed out that under this plan new ports have been established, railway cars increased, and new farms added. He referred in this respect to the achievements in Sinai in the fields of services and infrastructure.

Answering a question about increased population, the president noted that we are suffering from a major problem: overpopulation and the uncalculated increase in population, which erodes all economic growth rates. He added: We are trying to maintain a sound pattern of birth rates.

He noted that unless the people are convinced there is a problem and confront it seriously, the Egyptian economy will not be able to endure the burdens of the future. The president added: I salute the efforts by all the mass media in this respect and hope that more attention will be given to confronting this problem, according to a well-studied scientific plan in harmony with our values and traditions.

On the issue of excessive prices, President Mubarak said that the government has the task of supervising markets and services, but the media and the citizens also have a role in confronting and thwarting exploitation. The president noted that some merchants and skilled workers are exploiting the situation, increasing prices even though there is no link between the cost of these jobs and goods and the increased prices for petrol and cigarettes. He said: The media must expose them; the citizens must not give in to them. There must be cooperation between government and the media, and unity throughout society in confronting exploitation by some merchants.

Regarding the issue of increasing salaries, the president noted that the government is studying the issue of raises within the framework of a comprehensive administrative reform program and that this will be included in the state's public budget.

He said: I want every citizen to be assured that we are exerting every effort to reduce the burdens on them, but within the scope of our resources and income.

President Mubarak then listened to the views of journalists and writers on the issues of preserving agricultural land, growth in rural tourism, and the role of cooperatives in controling prices and bypassing middlemen.

The president then replied to foreign policy questions, starting with Egyptian-Libyan relations and contacts in that direction at the Arab level. He said: There is only good between us and the Libyan people. But, the Libyan regime must know quite well that good-neighborliness, for which we are very eager, must benefit the fraternal Libyan people.

The president also replied to a question about Egyptian-Algerian relations. He noted Algeria's stand at the Amman summit and the contacts made to restore bilateral relations. He said: Egypt has dignity, which it will not relinquish and will not allow to be slighted.

Regarding the U.S.-Soviet summit and Egypt's efforts to include the Middle East problem on the agenda, President Mubarak said: It is more important that those of us with a cause have a clear and defined stand.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif ended his statement by saying that President Mubarak was eager to have all media sectors represented at this meeting, which this year honored the press, radio, and television.

He added that President Mubarak met with the media leaders of radio, television, the press, MENA, the public information authority, and the Cairophone Company. President Mubarak underlined the role of the media and its great effect on shaping the nation's conscience and public opinion, not only in Egypt but in the Arab world and on the African Continent. He noted that the Egyptian media plays a leading role, has a history, and is capable.

Morocco's Prime Minister Departs Cairo 31 May

NC3105112688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT 31 May 88

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 May (MENA)—Moroccan Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki and his delegation left Cairo today after a 4-day visit. The Moroccan prime minister met with President Husni Mubarak during his stay and conveyed to him a message from King Hassan II of Morocco. He also headed his country's delegation to the meetings of the first session of the Joint Higher Egyptian-Moroccan Committee.

Laraki was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and several other ministers. [passage omitted]

Joint Communique Signed

NC3105140788 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and his Moroccan counterpart, Dr Azzedine Laraki, today signed a joint communique concerning the first session of the Higher Egyptian-Moroccan Committee held in Cairo early this week. The prime ministers also signed a document forming the Higher Egyptian-Moroccan Committee. The signing ceremony was attended by the officials who represented their countries in the committee meetings.

The document forming the Higher Committee empowers this committee to supervise cooperation, consultation, and political coordination between the two countries with regard to bilateral, Arab, regional, and

international affairs. The committee will also prepare special studies in the various fields of economic, social, financial, commercial, cultural, technical, scientific, and tourist cooperation. The committee is to make appropriate decisions on all these matters and to follow up the implementation of treaties, agreements, and cooperation programs signed by both countries.

The committee will be cochaired by the prime ministers of both countries or by officials deputized to act on their behalf. It will meet alternately at capitals of both countries at least once a year. The date and agenda for every session will be determined through diplomatic channels.

The Higher Committee is also empowered to set up a follow-up secretariat, ministerial subcommittees, or joint work teams to make preparations for its meetings. Minutes of the Higher Committee will be signed by the committee cochairman and preserved as official documents for subsequent implementation.

The document founding the Higher Committee will supersede the agreement to set up a joint ministerial committee that was signed by both sides in Cairo in July 1976.

The joint communique contained the agreement of both sides to hold the meetings of the next Higher Committee session in Rabat in February.

The two sides praised the identity of views they had during the committee discussions on regional and international issues of common interest. They expressed their belief in the principle of solving problems by peaceful means, respecting the principles of international law, and achieving international stability.

The two sides affirmed that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the conflict in the region. They denounced Israel's intransigent position, which is hindering all peace efforts, including the convening of an international conference. This exposes the security of the region and the world to danger.

The two sides expressed their support for the Palestinian uprising until it reaches its objective of achieving a just peace and establishing a Palestinian state on Palestinian national soil under the leadership of the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as well as establishing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination.

The two sides called for the intensification of efforts to put an end to the Gulf war, and praised fraternal Iraq's responsiveness to the peace efforts. They expressed their support for Iraq in its legitimate defense of its territory and sovereignty.

The two sides also expressed their solidarity with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and all the countries of the region against any Iranian aggression directed toward their sovereignty.

The Egyptian side hailed the efforts of King Hassan II, in his capacity as chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, for the liberation of Arab Jerusalem.

The Egyptian side also welcomed the restoration of relations between Morocco and Algeria. The two sides decided to participate in promoting the ICO's efforts to strengthen cooperation among the member states and solve their problems within the framework of Islamic brotherhood.

The two sides agreed to continue their coordination and cooperation inside the nonaligned group and to participate in its efforts to ease tension and establish peace in the world.

The two sides expressed their determination to promote and develop Arab-African cooperation to achieve the interests and hopes of the Arab and African peoples.

The two sides agreed on the importance of finding urgent solutions to the foreign debt problems of the African states and solving their problems by peaceful means.

The two sides also agreed that cooperation between the foreign ministries in the two countries would include consultations on Arab, Islamic, African, and international issues, and cooperation in the training of diplomats and in holding joint seminars and meetings.

The political part of the communique concluded by lauding the efforts of President Husni Mubarak and the Egyptian Government, and the wise policy they are pursuing to achieve Arab solidarity to confront the challenges facing the Arab nation and its fateful cause.

The Moroccan side also praised the positive steps which Egypt is taking in the field of social and economic development and advancement. It also expressed admiration for the achievements that have been made under the leadership of President Husni Mubarak, achievements which have realized greater progress and prosperity for the Egyptian people.

As regards economic and financial cooperation, the two countries have decided to establish a joint holding company for investment, which will contribute to the launching of joint ventures in various areas of development and trade in both countries. The charter of the company is to be signed within 6 months.

The two sides also recommended that serious efforts be made to conclude agreements among Egypt, Morocco, and third parties in the economic, cultural, and technical fields, both within the two countries and abroad.

As far as financial and tax cooperation is concerned, the two sides discussed the draft agreement to avoid dual taxation, which was initialed by the two countries in December 1977.

The two sides agreed on the importance of determining the final formula of this agreement prior to signing it, in order to encourage investment exchanges, set up joint projects, and amend the agreement to bring it in line with legislation and tax regulations introduced in both countries since 1977. This will be followed by a meeting at the expert level in Rabat next September for the final signature on the agreement.

In the trade exchange area, the Egyptian and Moroccan sides agreed to increase the volume of exchange to $100 million by the end of 1989. They also agreed on a new trade and customs draft agreement to replace the Trade and Preferential Tariff Agreement, which was signed in June 1976. This was decided in light of amendments which have been made to the laws and charters regulating foreign trade, as well as the economic progress achieved in both countries since the previous agreement was signed. The commodity lists attached to the agreement, which enjoy tariff preferences, will also be updated.

The two sides agreed on and signed a draft cooperation accord between the export development centers in both Egypt and Morocco. They also discussed ways of removing the obstacles which have impeded implementation of the equal exchange deal signed between Al-Nasr Company for Export and Import and its Moroccan counterpart in August 1986. They also agreed to conclude a new deal worth $52 million to be equally shared by the two sides.

The two countries called for joint cooperation at international economic organizations such as GATT, the Brussels Tariff Cooperation Council, and UNCTAD.

The Egyptian Chambers of Commerce Union and the Moroccan Chambers of Commerce and Industry League welcomed the prospect for cooperation between them, within the framework of the Arab and Islamic chambers, and agreed to set up an Egyptian branch at the Moroccan Chambers League and a Moroccan branch at the Egyptian Chambers Union.

The two sides agreed on the importance of reciprocal participation in the international exhibitions and markets held in both countries to promote their products, in order to develop and diversify trade between the two countries. The Moroccan side renewed its invitation to the Egyptian side to participate in the international exhibition for conventional industry due to open in Casablanca on 18 June this year.

As regards production, the two sides reviewed industrial aspects of potentially fruitful cooperation and stressed the need to develop and promote bilateral industrial cooperation in various fields.

The two sides agreed on the need to exchange data on existing industries in both countries, in preparation for reaching a common view on plans for developing industry in both countries. This view should take into account the potential for industrial integration in those industries whose components are locally manufactured by both countries, and should stress the need to make use of available raw materials and upgrade production techniques.

The two sides also decided to encourage the establishment of joint projects in the field of small- and medium-sized industries, particularly in the fields of sardine canning, fresh juices, tomato sauce, and dairy products, as well as in engineering, electrical industries, and equipment design. They also agreed to exchange industrial expertise, particularly in the field of paper, cardboard, plastics, fiberglass, sugar, iron and steel, fertilizers, sulphur, textiles, ready-made clothing, and railway industries, as well as in the field of phosphate extraction.

The two parties also agreed to encourage cooperation between the industrial research centers in both countries in an attempt to upgrade local industries and to unify specifications standards of the commodities produced by the two countries so as to make them compatible with international specifications, and to facilitate trade and exports.

The two sides stressed the need to make use of the training institutions in the two countries to upgrade the performance of laborers, to hold regular meetings and seminars for industrialists, and to exchange visits between the industrial installations of the two countries, in order to modernize local industries so they can keep pace with international industrial progress.

The two parties agreed to form a permanent subcommittee for industrial coordination between the two countries. The subcommittee should meet at least once every year in either Cairo or Rabat alternately in the presence of representatives of the public sector of both countries. However, the first meeting of the permanent subcommittee is to be held before the end of this year.

Furthermore, the two sides agreed to promote cooperation in the fields of electricity and energy and to exchange expertise and data in this respect. They also agreed to exchange technical information on nuclear energy, new and renewable energy sources, and to develop solar and wind energy resources.

The agriculture ministries in the two countries welcomed cooperation in the exchange of agricultural material and programs for the development of animal and fish resources, the reclamation of desert land, the development of desert pasture land, the planting of salt-resistant trees, the packing and circulation of agricultural goods, and cooperation in gardening.

They also welcomed cooperation in the fields of genetic engineering, green houses, irrigation, and watering control. They agreed to exchange statistical data and scientific publications in these fields, and to exchange training in various agricultural fields and visits by technicians and experts.

In the services field, the two sides emphasized the importance of strengthening and developing shipping between the two countries as a means of increasing the volume of trade and tourism between them in accordance with an agreement to be discussed by both sides.

The Egyptian side welcomed port calls by Moroccan ships on their way to Middle Eastern ports via the Suez Canal. It also welcomed a proposed protocol to render as sister schools the Arab Academy for Maritime Transport in Alexandria and the Higher Institute for Maritime Studies in Casablanca.

With regard to roads, the two sides decided to exchange expertise in the technology of road and bridge construction, and to study the possibility of unifying the technical specifications for the construction, utilization, and maintenance of roads. They also agreed to discuss a draft agreement between the two countries regarding international overland transportation.

The two sides agreed to exchange expertise, information, and training in the fields of railways, roads, telecommunications, shipping, and the management and operation of various means of transport.

In the tourism field, the two sides welcomed the revival of the tourism agreement which was concluded between them in 1976, in view of the tourism potential each country possesses. They welcomed the possibility of embarking on joint tourist projects with the participation of companies in the two countries.

They agreed to encourage the establishment of tourist festivals, encourage cooperation between the external tourism offices of the two countries, and to explore the possibility of preparing joint tourism programs.

The two sides decided to strengthen cooperation in the field of air transport on the basis of the agreement signed between them in May 1960 and the trade agreement signed between the two national institutions for air transport in May 1984. They also decided to invite their civil aviation authorities and institutions to discuss the possibility of updating the two agreements.

In the field of culture, the two sides reviewed the efforts being made to develop cultural relations within the framework of the executive program of the agreement signed between them in April 1987, and to make an effort to further promote these relations.

The Moroccan side welcomed the invitation to perform an artistic work during the celebrations marking the opening of the Egyptian Cultural Center (the new opera house), and agreed to hold a seminar on Egyptian-Moroccan relations during the Moroccan people's celebration of Youth Day in Sala. The two sides emphasized the need to speed up the formation of a joint committee to draw up an agreement on cooperation in the movie industry, as stipulated in the executive program of the cultural cooperation agreement.

In the field of information, the two delegations reviewed the existing relations in this field in light of the executive program of the cultural agreement and the cooperation agreement concluded between the radio and television organs of the two countries.

The committee recommended the encouragement of the exchange of experts and specialists, the training of media personnel, the exchange of radio and television documentaries, the regular exchange of radio and television dispatches, and the holding of radio and television artistic evenings to be aired by both countries.

The committee also recommended encouraging the conclusion of a detailed agreement between the national news agencies of the two countries on the operation of their offices in the two respective countries. This would include facilities granted to each on the basis of equal treatment, particularly with regard to the distribution of bulletins and the use of part of each news agency's reports by the other agency, and the exchange of visits and expertise, publications, photos, and documents. It also recommended that MENA speed up opening an office in Rabat and appoint a manager there, as well as speeding up the establishment of a direct link with this office.

The committee recommended establishing a committee of experts from the Ministries of Information of the two countries that will meet alternately once a year in both countries. It will propose projects of mutual benefit and follow up the implementation of the information cooperation protocol signed by the two countries.

Regarding bilateral cooperation in the field of health, the two delegations recommended cooperation within the framework of the executive program signed by the two countries in April 1987, particularly in the fields of manufacturing and marketing medicines and medical equipment and tools. They also recommended the exchange of information, data, and statistics; attendance of medical conferences in the two countries; exchange of specialist doctors and auxiliary technical personnel; holding training seminars in all branches of medicine; exchange of expertise on health insurance and treatment establishments; holding joint research on combating prevailing diseases in the region; and cooperating on health awareness programs, particularly in the area of drug abuse.

With regard to social affairs, the two delegations recommended drawing up a draft agreement on cooperation in the fields of family, children, and women's care, and training in traditional industries, family-run businesses and the training of skilled workers.

The two delegations also agreed to study a program for security cooperation, an agreement for cooperation in the judicial and legal fields, and an agreement for mutual recognition of national driving licenses.

Turning to bilateral cooperation in the field of water resources, the two sides welcomed the exchange of expertise and data for building dams and making use of water resources for irrigation, agricultural, and drinking purposes. They also called for benefiting from the training centers in both countries in this respect, and highlighted the need to exchange information in the field of desalinating seawater and reusing drainage water for various purposes.

The two sides expressed their desire to promote cooperation in building and reconstruction techniques, and called for a meeting between the two countries' experts to outline the technical specifications needed.

As for scientific research, the two parties called for joint research in various scientific domains through the applied research centers of both countries, exchanging experts and training courses in various scientific fields of interest to both countries, and exchanging specialized periodicals and magazines in this domain. The two parties agreed to make future plans for establishing a common Arab center for technical and technological consulting. They also agreed to promote cooperation in the fields of remote sensing, fishery resources, agricultural research, and petroleum and renewable energy resources.

The committee approved continuation of the executive program for cultural and scientific cooperation signed between the two countries in April 1987 for the years 1987, 1988, and 1989. The committee also called for intensified efforts to develop cooperation for exchanging expertise in the fields of primary, secondary, and vocational education, and to encourage the signing of bilateral agreements between the universities and educational institutions of the two countries, in order to facilitate cooperation and the exchange of professors.

The two countries welcomed the prospect for cooperation in the field of meteorology and for the exchange of specialists and instructors in this area.

As regards Islamic affairs, the two countries decided to form a joint committee comprising representatives from the Ministries of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the two countries to achieve the goals set by the executive program of the cultural and scientific cooperation agreement signed between the two countries in April 1987.

The two sides agreed to organize bilateral cooperation in order to stage joint cultural activities, within each country or abroad, and to facilitate contacts between their cultural institutions and organizations and intellectuals. As part of this cooperation, the two countries will participate in book exhibitions in Casablanca and Cairo. The cooperation will also cover children's education, especially through books, puppet shows, and exhibitions; the exchange of antique pieces displayed at museums in both countries; and the exchange of artistic and heritage exhibitions.

The Egyptian side welcomed the idea of holding an exhibition of pharaonic archaeology in Morocco in July 1989, while the Moroccan side agreed to contribute to the revival of the Old Alexandria Library by supplying references, copies of historical manuscripts and documents, and heritage books.

Paper Criticizes Reagan on Palestinian Rights

NC3106213688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Cairo, 31 May (MENA)—The Egyptian newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH calls on U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to take clear positions at the Moscow summit on the issue of peace in the Middle East, particularly as indications are that everybody is convinced of the principle of land in return for peace. This principle is the basis for the notion of holding an international conference, which Israel continues to resist.

In its editorial tomorrow, Wednesday, AL-JUMHURIYAH criticizes the U.S. insistence on limiting human rights to Jews only and Reagan's rush to meet with Soviet dissidents at a time when he is backing Israel's policy of repressing the Palestinian people's struggle to acquire their legitimate rights.

The paper describes the U.S. stand as a very strange one because it ignores the general concept of human rights, of which the United States has historically approved.

Morocco

King Accredits New Envoy to Algeria 31 May

LD3105141588 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Rabat, May 31. (Map)—"I am not accrediting an ambassador (to Algeria) as I do for other ambassadors. Rather, I am designating an ambassador who is also a friend since he is my physician," King Hassan told appointed Moroccan Ambassador to Algeria Abdellatif Berbich upon receiving him Monday to hand him his credentials.

Qualifying the occasion as "a historical day in the relations of the Arab Maghreb states" and his relations with Berbich as "of close human ties", King Hassan added "I have chosen you to show our sincere determination, the good intentions motivating us at all levels in Morocco and the profound desire to go ahead so we and

the coming generations, ours and those of our neighbours, could forget the past and get down to work for the construction of the future on solid bases, because, for such a task, hatred and rancour have never constituted a healthy basis."

"There is no doubt", the sovereign went on," that His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, our neighbour and our friend, and his people, have the same ideas, nourish the same aspirations and endeavour for the same ideal, all the more so since we are on the eve of the extraordinary Arab summit of Algiers."

"So present your credentials before our arrival", King Hassan further told the new ambassador, adding "I am convinced, that thank God, it is auspicious for you and for your mission to have received your credentials one week before we personally head for the country wherein you are accredited."

King Hassan told Berbich to "convey to his excellency the president our brotherly feelings and our high and deep considerations. Tell him of our determination to work, in all modesty but in all sincerity, for the success of this Arab summit conference, because the success of an Arab summit conference in one of the Arab Maghreb capitals is in fact a success for all this region."

"Be sure", concluded the monarch, "that the mission is not difficult but needs faith and human warmth, given the grandiose task, which is that of the two countries making for lost time."

After the royal address, Berbich took oath before the monarch.

The royal audience was attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali, Minister of the Interior Driss Basri, advisers to the king Ahmed Bensouda and Mohamed Aouad and the king's chamberlain Ibrahim Frej.

Algerian Interior Minister Arrives in Rabat

LD3105154288 Rabat MAP in English 1304 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Rabat, May 31 (MAP)—Algerian Minister of the Interior Hedi Khediri arrived in Rabat this Tuesday morning for a visit that "denotes", as he put it, "the two countries' determination to further consolidate their ties".

Khediri who will have several rounds of talks with his Moroccan peer Driss Basri told the press upon arrival that "when two ministers of the interior meet (...) they work to ease relations between the peoples of the concerned countries".

"We will work to consolidate friendship between our two countries," Khediri said before stressing that "it is absolutely necessary that the two peoples meet".

Khediri who had been received Monday evening in Algiers by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid on the eve of his trip to Morocco is visiting the Kingdom for the first time while Driss Basri had visited Algiers twice in the context of coordination between the two countries in struggle against locust invasion.

Morocco and Algeria have restored their diplomatic relations on May 16 after they had been severed for over 12 years because of Algeria's military and diplomatic support to the "Polisario" in the Western Sahara dispute.

Sudan

Al-Mahdi Criticizes Arab League on OAU Summit

EA2905194288 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] At a press conference for accompanying journalists held aboard his plane while returning from Addis Ababa, Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi criticized the Arab League for its position on the African summit

He said the summit adopted resolutions on Afro-Arab cooperation and that all international organizations were present. His excellency pointed out that Sudan tabled an initiative within the framework of Afro-Arab cooperation and that Sudan would raise this matter at any Arab meeting.

His excellency said that the Sudanese and Ethiopian peoples are striving to remove causes of misunderstanding. He said there are some problems on the official level and that the political leadership of the two countries must overcome them within the framework of the call for peace in the Horn of Africa and Red Sea area.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said he discussed the situation of the refugees in Sudan with the UN secretary general and the UN high commissioner for refugees. It has been decided that a UN delegate should be sent to Sudan to discuss problems of the refugee influx, as most of the refugees who have entered the country are young people and male adults.

The prime minister described the conference atmosphere as amicable and harmonious. His excellency said a relaxation of the hostilities in the Gulf war is expected and a reply to the UN secretary general is expected shortly.

His excellency described the normalization of Libyan-Chadian relations as a positive contribution to solving the conflict in Chad.

He said he met President Husni Mubarak and that they discussed the joint committees of the two countries and coordination between the two countries in the interests of peace. He said that talks aimed at improving Egyptian-Libyan relations were positive.

SPLA Reports 'Successful' Military Operations

LD2705161588 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 27 May 38

[Excerpt] A force of Kashshah Task Force, under the command of Captain Abednigo Ajak (Nyith) carried out a successful attack on the western part of the enemy garrison of Qaysan, on 16 May 1988 and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy—25 killed and many others wounded. The enemy also suffered heavy losses in materials, which included the destruction of ammunition store with different types of ammunition. [passage omitted]

Earlier, on 14 May 1988, a force of petrol [as heard] carried out a successful raid on the enemy garrison east of Qaysan. In this raid the enemy suffered heavy casualties in men—13 killed, 8 were identified to be from the artillery unit and 1 from combat intelligence. [passage omitted]

An engineering unit from Cobra Task Force under the command of 1st Lieutenant Garang (Jol Bil) demolished Kit Bridge on Nimule Road, about 55 miles north of Nimule Town on 18 May 1988. Radio SPLA correspondent in the area says that this strategic bridge was demolished at 1315 Sudan local time. [passage omitted]

Earlier, on 15 May 1988, Bright Star Campaign engineering unit of Geigar II Task Force under direct command of Captain (Denye Tag Tign) completely domolished Lolore Bridge, 6 miles from Torit Town. [passage omitted]

Government Claims 'Great Victory' Over 'Outlaws'

EA3005185388 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] The official spokesman for the Armed Forces has said that the Armed Forces have scored a great victory over the remnants of the outlaws in the past 2 days. With the help of Anya Nya II forces, they have destroyed and burned down seven outlaw camps in the (Rub Kona) area.

The outlaws suffered heavy losses amounting to 56 killed and many wounded. Six outlaws were captured. The Armed Forces also captured 40 Kalashnikov rifles and a quantity of ammunition. Of the friendly forces, 3 were martyred and about 28 were wounded.

Tunisia

Islamic Tendency Opposition Leaders Interviewed

Abdelfattah Mourou

LD2405114188 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 May 88 p 3

[Telephone interview with General Abdelfattah Mourou, exiled Tunisian Islamic Tendency secretary, by Al-Hashimi al-Hamidi; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Al-Hamidi] What is your comment on President Ben Ali's recent decision to release Shaykh Rached Ghannouchi?

[Mourou] The release decision confirms our perspicacity in placing our confidence in President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali, precisely because in our assessment a solution to the Islamic Tendency problem depends on the president's courage and determination to understand the facts behind the matter. Such a step is bound to rehabilitate the Islamic Tendency Movement and its leaders and reassure the Tunisian people, proving that the present leadership of the state is sincere in adopting the 7 November slogans, thus responding to a popular desire, namely for a just solution to the problem of the Islamic Tendency which was exposed to crude injustices by the former regime. I believe that Rached's release is bound to open a new chapter in relations between the authorities and people in Tunisia. [passage omitted]

[Al-Hamidi] What topics will be broached in the dialogue between you and the government?

[Mourou] First of all I would like to emphasize that dialogue is a basic option in our dealings with the government and the other parties. The movement has adopted and promoted it since it was first established. The movement has approached the former regime to conduct a dialogue over a number of issues but was always rejected. Our desire to hold a dialogue does not stem from the conditions we are experiencing; in fact it emanates from a basic conviction, which is that Tunisia will not be able to resolve its basic problems without a constructive national dialogue comprising all parties without exception. On this occasion the Islamic Tendency Movement emphasizes its willingness to enter into a dialogue in order to achieve a prime objective, that is, to participate in building Tunisia's future under conditions of harmony and amity without resort to clashes and disputes. In general, all that we want is for the door to be opened to the movement so it can contribute to repairing what the former regime has damaged at all levels. [passage omitted]

[Al-Hamidi] The Tunisian parliament passed two laws recently on mosques and parties, one of which prevents the formation of parties on the basis of religion. How would you assess the matter, especially after Ghannouchi's release?

[Mourou] The two laws were passed by a parliament formed during the former era. Thus it is not difficult to understand the spirit in which it dealt with the issue, since the majority is still controlled by the mentality of the former era. I have heard that President Ben Ali may call for early parliamentary elections within the coming few months—which shows that such a step is urgently needed, in order to produce a parliamentary council that matches the political developments that Tunisia has witnessed since 7 November. [passage omitted]

[Al-Hamidi] Is your return to the homeland in sight, in view of recent developments?

[Mourou] My departure from Tunisia was caused by harassment. So I will return imminently if the government continues to take steps toward normalizing relations with the Islamic Tendency. My problem is not personal; it is part of the record of the relationship between the authorities and the movement. I believe that the courageous beginnings made by President Ben Ali toward the movement makes the rehabilitation of all its members imminent, especially since the question now relies on a political decision regarding both those detained inside and those living in exile. And I cannot see anything preventing a decision being issued in the near future.

[Al-Hamidi] Can we then say that your return is now imminent?

[Mourou] Our return is now as good as certain. We are just waiting for some procedural arrangements. You can say that we are preparing for our return. [passage omitted]

Saleh Karkar

JN2705134888 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
25 May 88 p 20

[Excerpt] London—AL-QABAS—Saleh Karkar, Tunisian Islamic Tendency Movement executive command member, has welcomed President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali's decision to release the movement's Secretary General [title as published] Shaykh Rached Ghannouchi. In a telephone call with him in Paris, he told AL-QABAS: "There is a national consensus in welcoming this decision, which reflects a serious inclination to solve the issue comprehensively through releasing the rest of the prisoners and restoring their civil rights."

He added: "We had been concerned since some parties intended to hinder a comprehensive national reconciliation. But the latest presidential decision has proven that the higher authority is aware of the real situation in the country and is placing the country's higher interests ahead of some narrow-minded sectarian calculations."

He said that the issue, in fact, requires a daring decision based on acceptance of the Islamic Tendency Movement as a cultural reality. He expressed the hope that all prisoners will soon be released so that Tunisian Muslims can have the opportunity to serve their country along with all other Tunisians and through the use of all their resources.

Karkar expressed his confidence that President Ben Ali will announce other measures that would completely end the grievances of his movement.

In an answer to a question on the prospects of cooperation with the authorities, Karkar, said that the Islamists have never been a source of disagreement or rivalry, and that their basic option has always been that of dialogue and the support of all just stands and positive measures. He said that the Islamic Tendency Movement realizes the deterioration of the economic situation in the country. He added: We can contribute more effectively and seriously to confronting this crisis. We will contribute our sons' efforts and use our good relations with some Arab and Islamic financial circles to support investment in Tunisia, especially since the new era has adopted a new policy of openness in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

Karkar said that he is now thinking seriously of returning to Tunisia because "given the current policies that are aimed at removing the grievances of the old era, a delay of my return is incomprehensible. I will return to Tunisia once the new positive measures are announced so that I can serve my country."

Karkar denied reports that he represents the extreme part of the movement saying: "Most of those who market these rumors have never met me. I am like the rest of the movement's leaders and members who believe in democracy, citizens' will, and political pluralism. I defend dialogue, consultation, and persuasion as a legitimate policy of work and reform in the country. The demonstrations that erupted on some occasions were the only available means to alleviate a major grievance against the old regime. They must be understood only in this context." [passage omitted]

PDRY

Soviet Delegation Arrives for Celebrations

LD2705162888 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 27 May 88

[Summary] Several socialist countries' delegations arrived in Aden yesterday evening to participate in the ceremonies marking the 15th anniversary of the organization of the peoples defense committees. The Voluntary Society for the Promotion of the Army, Aviation, and Navy delegation from the USSR led by Comrade Kladatskiy, deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the organization, has arrived in Aden.

Leaders Send Summit Message to Gorbachev

LD2905163088 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] The YSP Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Peoples Council, and the Council of Ministers have sent a joint message to Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, secretary general of the CPSU, on the occasion of the Soviet-U.S. summit which takes place tomorrow, Sunday 29 May, in the Soviet capital, Moscow. Here is the text of the message:

Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, the eyes of the peoples of the world and all the peace-loving forces of the world will be turning on 29 May toward Moscow where the Soviet-U.S. summit opens. They are all hopeful that the summit will end with positive results for the strengthening of world peace and security, disarmament, the settlement of regional conflicts, and the elimination of all hotbeds of tension in the world.

Our Yemeni people, like other Arab peoples, have great hopes that in your meeting with U.S. President Reagan you will discuss the Middle East issue and emerge with realistic proposals, in conformity with the interests of all parties and states in the Middle East, with a view to resolving this issue on the basis of convening an international conference with the participation of all parties, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, under UN supervision.

We also hope the summit will discuss the problems and worries of the developing countries and the provision of assistance to them, particularly the cancellation of debts and interest payments which weigh heavily on all their peoples. We hope a new international economic order will be found.

We highly appreciate all the peaceful initiatives of the USSR. We hope there will be a response from the U.S. side, because improvement of relations between the USSR and the United States has already had a positive effect in international terms and has highlighted the possibility of solving international conflicts and eliminating hotbeds of tension in different parts of the world.

We wish success for this historic meeting of yours for the sake of the happiness of humanity and its stability and the consolidation of peace and security all over the world.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd To Head Delegation to Algiers Summit

JN3105145288 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Algiers, 31 May (INA)—It was learned here today that King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia will head his country's delegation to the extraordinary Arab summit due to begin its work in Algiers on 7 June.

The extraordinary Arab summit, the second in 7 months since the Amman November summit, will discuss ways to support the uprising being staged in the occupied Arab territories.

Informed diplomatic sources told the INA correspondent in Algiers that a tripartite summit bringing together King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, King Hassan II of Morocco, and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid will be held on the sidelines of the Algiers summit.

Earlier this month, Morocco and Algeria restored diplomatic relations which have been severed for the past 12 years.

SPA Report

LD0106112088 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1050 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 1 Jun (SPA)—In a statement released today, the Royal Court announced that the custodian of the two holy mosques will lead the Kingdom's delegation to the emergency Arab summit conference in Algiers. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Receives PLO's Yasir 'Arafat

LD3105154788 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1520 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Jeddah, 31 May (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, today at the Royal Court in Al-Salam Palace received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who was accompanied by the PLO representative in the Kingdom, Rafiq al-Natshah, and Hani al-Hasan, member of the [Fatah] Central Committee and Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, and Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir.

Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Jeddah this morning and was welcomed at King 'Abd al-'Aziz International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of the Mecca region. He was also welcomed by

Rafiq al-Natshah, a representative of the Royal Protocol Department, and Eng Sami Maqbul, director of King 'Abd al-'Aziz International Airport, Jeddah.

United Arab Emirates

Sea Mine Explosion Kills 1 Fisherman, Injures 2

JN3105164288 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, May 31 (QNA)—A small fishing boat was destroyed in a sea mine explosion off Khawr Fakkan port, killing one Indian and injuring two others, an official source at the UAE Ministry of Interior said.

The source said one of the injured was in serious condition after their boat was destroyed in the mine explosion.

The injured were rushed to Diba Hospital in Al-Fujayrah for treatment after being picked up by a nearby vessel, the source added.

"The explosion destroyed the boat, killing one fisherman and injuring two others, one of whom is in serious condition. All occupants are Indian nationals," the source said.

Yemen Arab Republic

Al-Iryani on Embassy Explosion, Other Issues

JN3105194888 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 30 May 88 pp 10-12

[By Mahmud al-Tuhami]

[Excerpts] One can say that President Mubarak's visit to Sanaa has infused more warmth into the relations which exist between Egypt and the YAR. These relations have been characterized by cooperation and coordination between Cairo and Sanaa. To analyze the contents of this visit, it is necessary to view it within the context of the traditional friendship which exists between the Egyptian and Yemeni people and between the 23 July revolution in Egypt and the Yemeni 26 September 1962 revolution. [passage omitted]

In an interview with Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, YAR deputy prime minister and foreign minister, he explained to me in detail the YAR's policy on the most important issues. Dr al-Iryani spoke about the regional dimension, that of the close relations which exist among the GCC countries. The GCC comprises the countries of the Arabian Peninsula with the exception of the two Yemens.

I asked Dr al-Iryani why his country has not joined the GCC so long as there are common regional interests. He smiled and reiterated what President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih had already said, which is that the YAR was not invited to join the GCC, and if it is invited it will not refuse to join. On why the YAR has not been invited to join, Dr al-Iryani said this question must be addressed to the GCC and not to the YAR. [passage omitted]

I asked the YAR foreign minister about the recent explosion in the U.S. Embassy. He said that all the facts will be made public when investigations are completed. He said relations with the United States have not been affected by this incident. [passage omitted]

I also asked YAR Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah Barakat about the explosion. He said this is an unimportant and transient incident and does not affect the security situation in the country. He added that preliminary investigations have shown it was a very small operation.

On the strategic importance of the Red Sea, Dr al-Iryani said he is for the noninterference of superpowers in the affairs of the Red Sea and that the best thing is to coordinate between Red Sea countries and Ethiopia to secure its being kept away from the international struggle. [passage omitted]

Deputy Prime Minister Returns From Baghdad

JN2905184588 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Brother Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister, Standing Committee member, and head of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council, returned to Sanaa from Baghdad this afternoon. He headed our country's delegation comprising representatives of various mass organizations and trade unions to the International Popular Conference for Peace held in the Iraqi capital 25-27 May 1988.

In a statement to SABA' news agency, Dr Makki said the conference, which was attended by a number of popular and mass organizations as well as political, parliamentary, trade union, and social personalities from various countries, had a positive outcome. The participants agreed on the need to end the Iraq-Iran war and implement Security Council Resolution No 598. The conference also praised Iraq's peaceful stands, which are in harmony with UN resolutions.

Dr Makki said he conveyed to the Iraqi president the congratulations of brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, on Iraq's victory in the battle to liberate Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh], when he met with the Iraqi president. He also met with brothers Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, and Tariq 'Aziz, the foreign minister. He discussed with them bilateral relations and ways to promote them.

'Aziz Briefs Committee on War, Arab Affairs

JN2905162188 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, described the Iraqi Armed Forces' victories in the Al-Faw and Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh] sectors as a new stage confirming Iran's inability to achieve its vile expansionist ambitions. He said the Al-Faw and Al-Shalamjah victories in the blessed Ramadan and Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah operations returned the military and political balance to its correct position. He expressed confidence that the new equation will govern political and diplomatic activity so that Iraq can attain comprehensive and just peace and shatter the dreams of the covetous invaders.

This came at a National Assembly session held today under Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and assembly speaker. During the session, the foreign minister answered questions by the chairman and members of the Arab and International Relations Committee, on the implementation of Resolution No 598 and a number of Arab and international affairs. Tariq 'Aziz reviewed current Security Council deliberations on Resolution No 598 and the resolution for an arms embargo on Iran for rejecting the abovementioned resolution. He stressed that Iran has no sincere will for peace while Iraq's stand and peaceful policy are clear.

The deputy prime minister warned against deceptive maneuvers by Iran and others to foil efforts to implement Security Council Resolution No 598 according to the sequence of its operative paragraphs and to preoccupy the Security Council in minor aspects of the conflict with the aim of giving Iran more time to launch a new aggression against Iraq. He said that the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general should obtain an explicit, documented, and unconditional approval from the highest authorities in Iran stressing their serious desire to implement Security Council Resolution No 598.

The foreign minister praised Saudi Arabia's decision to sever relations with Iran and said this decision was a sound pan-Arab stand adopted by Saudi Arabia after great patience and profound thinking during which it concluded that Iran committed aggression not only against Iraq but also the Arabian Gulf states. He said that Syrian-Iranian interference in Lebanese affairs proves the triviality and wretchedness of the Syrian regime as confirmed by its declared official collusion with the Tehran rulers aimed at striking the Arab people in Lebanon and looting their wealth.

Tariq 'Aziz stressed Iraq's desire to attend all Arab meetings and support the PLO, adding that the Algiers summit should extend all forms of support for our Palestinian Arab people's uprising against Zionist authorities in the occupied territories in a manner that will contribute to its continuation. Regarding current attempts to implement the UN General Assembly resolution to hold an international conference to resolve the Middle East issue, the deputy prime minister said: The subject is still in initial stages and there are no decisive options to be accepted or rejected. I expect intensive contacts among concerned parties within the coming stage on two basic points. The first is definition of the international conference and its powers; the second is Palestinian representation.

Tariq 'Aziz spoke about the Moscow summit and topics the Soviet and U.S. leaders will discuss saying that their attention will focus on bilateral relations, ways to reduce nuclear weapons by 50 percent, and the treaty they signed in Washington in December. The National Assembly had earlier discussed a number of topics on the agenda, including a proposed amendment of the law of the company for the transport of passengers in the governorates.

Communique No 3,199 Details 30-31 May Combat

JN0106092988 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1714 GMT 31 May 88

[Communique No 3,199 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 31 May]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The results of our troops' activities for last night and today were as follows:

1. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector engaged enemy troops and achieved the following: 12 scoundrels were killed; 1 120-MM mortar gun was destroyed; 1 shovel [preceding word in English] was destroyed; 5 infantry positions were destroyed; 7 large vehicles were burned and destroyed, including 4 with personnel; and 5 ammunition dumps were blown up.

2. One enemy soldier was killed and seven positions of various types and one observation post were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector. Four scoundrels were killed; one mortar gun, one 106-MM gun, and three vehicles were destroyed; one shovel was damaged; and three ammunition dumps were blown up in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

3. One enemy soldier was killed, one medium machine gun emplacement was destroyed, one vehicle was burned, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Also, one gun emplacement was destroyed and one ammunition dump was blown up in the VII Army Corps sector.

4. A number of Iranian military personnel sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 May 1988

Rabin Says U.S. Initiative Launched 'Too Late'

TA3105104088 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 May 88 pp 1, 10

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Speaking yesterday in Kefar Sava, Defence Minister Yitzaq Rabin said that the U.S. peace initiative had been launched too late. At the same time, he felt it was too early to negotiate peace with local Palestinian leaders, some of whom may be in jail.

Addressing students at Bet Berl, the Labour Movement college, only days before U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was due for another round of talks, Rabin said he doubted whether the initiative would achieve results. "Had it been launched a year ago, it would have had a chance," he suggested. "In the Arab world, and here, people know that a peace initiative is not something that can be achieved in a month, or three months. They know that elections are due in the U.S. and here. 'Hocus-pocus' which would do in four or five months what had not been done for years is unrealistic," he added.

He was in favour of talks with Jordan and "representatives of the territories' residents." Any resident would be acceptable to Israel, he reiterated.

He welcomed the fact that, for the first time since Israel was established, there were now signs that local Arab residents were taking their fate into their own hands.

Thus 90 per cent of the instructions sent here from PLO officials abroad are ignored. Half the fire bomb attacks in the past two weeks were directed by some Palestinians against other Palestinians in an attempt to enforce compliance with instructions, he noted. "Persuasion doesn't work any longer," he said. "Murder, threats, burning of homes and cars is required."

He suggested that the nearly six-month-old intifadha [uprising] was exacting a heavy toll on the residents, in part because one out of every three West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians work in Israel to make a living. Last year they took home $500 to $700 million in wages. The Arab world failed to raise even one tenth of that for the territories.

He said he hoped that the 1.5 million Palestinians in the territories would eventually "assume the leadership in their struggle over their fate. It will take time, the road is long. The PLO will try to prevent such a leadership from emerging."

CPSU's Shishlin Notes Preference for Peres Stance

TA0106100788 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Jun 88 pp A1, 2

[Report from Moscow by 'Ofra Yeshu'a-Lyth]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In a special talk with MA'ARIV, Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, the spokesman of the International Relations Department of the CPSU Central Committee [title as heard], hinted yesterday that while the Soviet Union demands Israeli agreement to an international conference in order to renew diplomatic relations, this does not necessarily mean Israeli agreement to the Soviet version of this conference.

"We have no monopoly on the truth. We do not know the magic formula that will solve all the problems in the Middle East. The problem is that at the moment Shamir is rejecting the peace conference idea; if this is the position, what is there to talk about?" Shishlin asked. He believes that Shamir's opposition to an international conference does not mean that if he wins the elections and forms a government the existing Israeli-Soviet dialogue will stop.

Shishlin made it clear that Peres' stance is much more acceptable to Moscow. He hinted, in fact, that if Peres forms a government that will officially recognize the international conference idea, the most serious obstacle will have been removed. He added, however: Shamir's position seems stronger in the meantime, and I believe he enjoys greater support. The dialogue will continue with Shamir, too; we do not intend to close any doors. [passage omitted]

Egyptian Ambassador on Peace Process, Uprising

TA3005201588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] The Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Muhammad Basyuni, says that if the USSR joins the peace process, the process will be joined by additional Arab countries, including Syria. According to him, the international conference is the only means for peace negotiations. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that in a meeting of the Rotary Club of 'Isfiya and Daliyat al-Karmil, the ambassador added that the intifadha [uprising] does not promote peace, but the conflict in the region will not end without a solution to the Palestinian problem.

Shim'on Shamir Appointed Ambassador to Egypt

TA2905084788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Prof Shim'on Shamir today received the government's approval for his appointment as Israel's ambassador to Cairo. The appointment was approved by a ministerial committee this morning. Shim'on Shamir was director of Israel's research institute in Cairo.

Shomron Comments on IDF-Aided SLA Operation
TA2905191488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] The chief of staff [COS], Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, has told the government that the action against Shi'ite villages in Lebanon occupied by Hizballah fighters was carried out by the South Lebanese Army [SLA] with Israeli help. Israeli infantry did not move out of the security zone during the operation, and the chief of staff said there was no dispute with the head of Northern Command, General Peled, on the scope and goals of the action.

Rabin Holds Second Meeting With Palestinians
TA3105121688 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 31 May 88 pp 1,11

[Report by Roni Shaqed, Dani Sade, and Hayim Broida]

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday met with four prominent Palestinians with whom he discussed the possibility of holding municipal elections in the territories, among other topics.

Yesterday's meeting was the second in a series launched by Minister Rabin 1 week ago, the goal of which is to examine the possibility of accelerating the political process, at the same time persuading the Palestinians to take charge of their destiny without PLO involvement.

As in his previous meeting with Nabulus dignitaries, the subject of possible municipal elections was raised, the general trend being that a local leadership willing to negotiate with Israel would emerge in the region. Minister Rabin emphasized, however, that these elections must be held as part of a political settlement, or even the first stage of one, be it an interim settlement or as part of the Shultz plan. [passage omitted]

Reacting to yesterday's meeting, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj told our correspondent that he is in favor of municipal elections in the West Bank. He noted, however: "No such elections can create a new leadership, although one thing is evident: Those elected are bound to be young."

Other West Bank dignitaries who were asked about Rabin's meetings said that if the defense minister wishes to bring about a dialogue with the Palestinians he should hold talks with other personalities, including those who have received the PLO's blessing, such as Hanna Sinyurah and Fayiz Abu Rahmah. [passage omitted]

Peres on Future of Settlements, Uprising Success
TA3105144788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, says that within the framework of peace negotiations, there is no intention of discussing the dismantling of existing settlements. Nevertheless, a distinction should be made between settlements around Jerusalem, which are an integral part of the city and will remain so even after the attainment of a political settlement, and other places in Judaea and Samaria, where changes may occur.

Our correspondent Arye Salman reports that during a tour of an Israel Aircraft Industries plant in 'Atarot, Mr Peres said that the main achievement of the uprising in the territories was that it captured headlines. The organizers of the unrest have succeeded in placing the Palestinian issue at the top of the agenda, thanks to the media, which accords the issue undue proportions—our struggle is against 22 Arab countries, not only the Palestinians, he said.

Peres claimed that the Arabs have shown an impressive degree of survivability, perseverance, and national aspirations. Consequently, we will hardly be able to return to the situation that prevailed prior to the uprising. Peres claimed that the inhabitants of the territories failed to obtain their chief goal, which is the creation of a new political situation.

Bar-Lev Sees IDF Deployed Throughout Elections
TA3105144188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev says that the motives for the unrest in the territories still exist, although most of the inhabitants understand they will achieve nothing through violence. Minister Bar-Lev believes that beefed-up IDF units will remain deployed in the territories through the Israeli and U.S. elections. Minister Bar-Lev toured the Gaza Strip today, where he was briefed on the situation in the area.

Speaking to our correspondent Moti Amir, the minister said that there was a substantial drop in the number of incidents in the territories. He believes the inhabitants of the territories should be allowed to hold local council elections, as a publicly elected figure is preferable to one appointed by the authorities or an IDF officer.

Goren Describes Causes of 'Uprising,' 'Weakening'
TA3005080688 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 30 May 88 p 4

[Interview with Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of government activities in the territories, by Yehuda Litani and Joel Greenberg; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Do you agree with the assessment that the intifadha [uprising] is changing direction?

[Goren] I don't know if it is changing direction, but the (Palestinians') readiness for massive clashes with the army has declined for various reasons. Fundamentally, the motivation remains, despite a certain weakening. There's still a way to go before we significantly undermine the motivation.

[Question] Do you think a new status quo has been established, a new level of violence and disruption of life that people will learn to live with for months, even years?

[Goren] That's possible. In the early days of the intifadha, I compared the situation to that of a high jumper who the minute he gets to a certain height wants to hold on to his record and always go higher. Undoubtedly the intifadha brought the general population to a climax it will want to maintain. But as we said in the beginning, all is not lost and much depends on how skillfully we manage to wear down the motivation, while on the other hand renewing civil activity, as we would like it to resume.

[Question] Is it possible at all to renew this everyday civil activity? In the past, you spoke of a two pronged policy: striking at hostile and terrorist elements, while enabling the broader population that shuns violence to live normally. Is this still possible? After the punitive measures against large groups in the population, can you still have relations with that broader populace and maintain the distinction between the broad public and the hostile element?

[Goren] Yes, the same holds true today. It's more difficult to maintain the distinction, because there's a larger public involved, but we are maintaining dialogue. That is one of the big failures of the intifadha. The systems are working despite everything, that's a fact. I think we can continue this policy. I'm sure we have to do it and I ask myself if there's an alternative.

[Question] You are the main address for policy issues connected with the territories, yet you have been accused of not foreseeing the intifadha. What's your response?

[Goren] I didn't expect that on December 9 there would be an intifadha and I don't know anyone who did. Those who were most surprised were residents of the territories. They also didn't expect such a thing. It was impossible to predict. If you ask me about responsibility, I have no direct responsibility for security and intelligence. I am responsible for the Civil Administration, which by definition has no security responsibility. However, I don't deny that I am a senior partner in all decisions, including those involving security.

[Question] How do you see the intifadha as the outcome of processes at work during the months preceding it?

[Goren] We said immediately after the Arab summit, when pro-Jordanian groups gained ascendancy, there was a clear, written assessment that the PLO and hostile elements cannot allow matters to develop this way.

The political-security factors were dominant. Economic distress was a prime factor, certainly not the main element, but it was most significant in the refugee camps, where the intifadha broke out. Don't forget that in May there was a mini-intifadha in the Balatah refugee camp. An entire refugee camp defied a curfew and went outside, preventing us from carrying out our mission. There were other such indications. The IDF outpost in the Jabalyah refugee camp was attacked. Today, we view these incidents as factors which led to the outburst.

[Question] Wasn't there a cumulative disgust with the occupation, unconnected to the PLO?

[Goren] Certainly. The fact is that the PLO did not initiate the intifadha, we're sure of this now. No one did. This was not the initiative of any element we know of. Not only was the PLO surprised, but several days went by before it decided to join the bandwagon.

[Question] In the months before the intifadha, observers said the demonstration were becoming more spontaneous, more local. You mentioned the situation at Balatah. When you saw these phenomena, didn't you have any sense that matters were coming to a head?

[Goren] I didn't know that in December there would be an intifadha, but it was clear that the population was under pressure.

[Question] What was done to prevent an outbrust?

[Goren] Through the Civil Administration, we did what we could and tried to create an atmosphere that would make life as easy as possible. But it should be remembered that the basic problem is not in our hands. The basic problem is political and it can't be solved only by the army or the Civil Administration.

[Question] Dont' you feel that the idea of "improving the quality of life" for the population in lieu of a political settlement has, in effect, proved an empty phrase? We see how the population is responding. Can "quality of life" still be promoted?

[Goren] The question is, what is the alternative? To put them in prison, not to open the schools, close the hospitals, not let them cross the bridges, close the banks? The fact is that these systems are working. What is the aim of the intifadha? To create anarchy. I see a great achievement in the dialogue we maintain with all sectors of the population, because the infrastructure has been maintained.

True, "improvement of quality of life" hasn't solved the problem, but no one believed it would. If it were up to me, I would make the "quality of life" twice as good in the territories. I have personally fought hard to get additional budgets. I even said during one argument that if there were no real economic activity, there would be an explosion, though I didn't know there would be an intifadha.

[Question] But do you say that that even if there had been an economic boom and fantastic "quality of life," the intifadha would have broken out.

[Goren] I think so. I believe that without a political solution, such things should be expected. Look what is happening with Israeli Arabs—they took part, at least in strikes, contacts, other activity.

[Question] Turning to the recent administrative restrictions in the territories, what are the new limitations imposed on summer visits to the West Bank?

[Goren] We've imposed several restrictions regarding the ages of the visitors and their family relationship to people here, because we have suspicions of hostile activities during the summer. We want to prevent that.

[Question] With regard to the restrictions on bringing funds into the territories from abroad, is money being confiscated from Palestinian-Americans arriving at Ben-Gurion Airport?

[Goren] Because of concern that money to finance the uprising will come from Palestinian organizations abroad, we have reinstituted restrictions on bringing in funds. We haven't confiscated money from any American tourist who is not a resident of the territories. There are residents of the territories who also have American documents, and as such come under the law of the territories, including monetary restrictions.

There are a few cases involving several hundreds of thousands of dollars, where dozens of residents of the territories arrived at Ben-Gurion with sums of money larger than permitted. Residents of the territories need advance approval to bring in more that 400 Jordanian dinars (about $1,200), as is the case at the Jordan River bridges.

[Question] Secretary of State George Shultz will be here next week and is expected to raise the issue of human rights in the territories, a subject already investigated in the field by a U.S. official. What will you tell the Americans about this?

[Goren] All our measures have legal backing, on this we are on solid ground. The defence minister's policy is not to carry out any act that is not covered by law.

[Question] What do you plan to do in the next six months to calm the area down?

[Goren] We have to wear down any readiness to break the law and, at the same time, not only renew the activities of the Civil Administration, but increase them as much as possible. As of this moment, the Israeli administration exists. Not only is there contact with everyone, not only has the vast majority in the Civil Administration stayed on and continued functioning, but there's readiness to receive these services. We have dialogue with all sectors of the population, without exception, and in all our conversations, we hear: "Gentlemen, let us return to normal life."

[Question] But you've imposed new administrative requirements that have forced masses of people to stand in line for hours to get permits. Aren't you alienating the broad population this way?

[Goren] We have taken a number of steps to prevent civil disobedience. Three or four months ago, there were calls to sever relations with the authorities, but they haven't been answered. There was concern that the appeals would be answered, so, to be safe, we took a number of steps to re-link the population to the Civil Administration by requiring licences, permits, stamps, new ID cards in Gaza, and the fact is that the population are coming and are linked to the Civil Administration. The price is high, I agree, and if it weren't imperative, we wouldn't have done what we have. [passage omitted]

Army 'Brutality' Said Main Cause of Unrest

TA3105175188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 May 88

[Excerpts] A senior government official has said that acts of brutality by troops and degradation of Palestinians constitute the chief cause of the continuation of the uprising in the territories. The official, who is directly involved in the problem of the intifadha [uprising], expressed the view in an official document which he distributed to all the relevant government agencies.

The document was obtained by Knesset Members Yosi Sarid and 'Oded Zucker of the Citizens Rights Movement, and was referred to by Sarid at today's meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense committee which was briefed by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] Yosi Sarid charged that the use of excess force by soldiers had become the norm rather than the exception, because the army's investigation of complaints was slow and half-hearted, and the sentences sometimes ridiculous. He cited the case of the 15-year-old Arab boy from 'Azmut who was killed. The army decided there had been no justification for opening fire, and prosecuted an officer and a soldier. The court established that the moving of the wounded Arab youth to hospital had been deliberately delayed by the troops, yet the officer was only reprimanded and the soldier received a 35-day conditional jail sentence. [passage omitted] [end recording]

4 Israeli Arabs Sentenced for Throwing Stones

TA3105170688 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The Haifa district court today sentenced four residents of Jisr al-Zarqa and Jatt to 6 months in prison for throwing stones at various vehicles. Qobi Mandel reports from Haifa:

[Begin recording] Last February Majid 'Usa 'Ufad and his friend Muhammad Masri hurled stones at a bus passing near Jatt, shattering its front windshield. The prosecution claimed that the two intended to cause damage both to the vehicle and to passengers riding a vehicle on a public transportation route. The two confessed and received 6 months in prison, a 2-year suspended sentence, and a fine of 1,500 shekels.

A similar punishment was imposed today on two 16-year-old residents of Jisr al-Zarqa, after the court convicted them of throwing stones at vehicles driving on the Haifa-Tel Aviv highway. In the incident, which happened in April, the front windshield of a bus was shattered, and another bus and two cars were damaged. [end recording]

Soldier Given 'Harsher Sentence' for Beating Arabs

TA3105183988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The Military Appeals Court has handed down a harsher sentence on Corporal Sagi Harpaz, who was convicted of beating Arab residents in Nabulus. A lower court gave Harpaz a 5-month suspended sentence and demoted him to private. The court, headed by Major General Ben-Tziyon Farhi, sentenced him to 1 and 1/2 months' imprisonment in addition to the previous sentence.

Security Forces Destroy House of Gaza 'Terrorist'

TA0106044588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Security forces have demolished the house of an accused terrorist in the Gaza Strip. Reporter Steve Rodan says the man has been identified as Ibrahim al-Kurdi of Khan Yunus. An army spokesman said Al-Kurdi was accused of membership in a terror organization and terrorist activities. Military sources add that Al-Kurdi was a member of a gang that allegedly tried to blow up the central bus station in Rishon Leziyyon earlier this year, as well as attempting to kill several Gaza residents.

The Civil Administration says it has exchanged about 30,000 identification cards in the Gaza Strip. Reporter Steve Rodan says the operation is now proceeding in the Al-Shaja'iyah neighborhood of Gaza City, where some of the most violent disturbances of the Palestinian unrest took place. Officials say there have been no incidents during the operation.

Peace Now Holds Rally in West Bank 28 May

TA2905101688 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 May 88 p 2

[Report by Ken Schachter]

[Excerpt] A line of nine buses and scores of cars snaked through the West Bank yesterday, under the slogan, "Peace Convoy: Into the West Bank and Out Again," organized by the Peace Now movement. During the course of the trip, about 2,000 Peace Now demonstrators staged a protest near this IDF base southeast of Nabulus.

Speakers at the peaceful one-hour rally denounced West Bank settlers and blasted Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin as "the rich people's Ari'el Sharon."

Activists voiced disappointment at a High Court of Justice ruling on Thursday that barred Peace Now demonstrators from entering the Arab towns of Bayta and Turmus, both scenes of recent settlers. But the protesters did manage to wave on the route to Arabs, who frequently waved back or flashed the victory sign. A woman in a car reported that an Arab handed her an olive branch.

Less friendly was the response of residents from the Gush Emunim settlement of Elqana. They massed along both sides of the road as the Tel Aviv convoy passed and many delivered a well-known obscene hand gesture. Farther along, one bystander within view of the Tel Aviv convoy delivered his political message by wearing an "intifada [uprising] busters" T-shirt modeled after the insignia of the film "Ghostbusters."

The High Court's three-member panel also upheld the IDF's restriction against the convoy's cars and buses carrying banners and signs into the West Bank. Peace Now leaders responded by putting signs on cars and buses while traveling inside the Green Line and taking them off when they entered the West Bank. Twin convoys escorted by IDF jeeps and helicopters set out from Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, joining en route to Camp Horon. [passage omitted]

AL-QABAS Details Letter to U.S. on Peace Plan

JN2705110188 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
25 May 88 pp 1, 20

[By Rakan al-Majali]

[Text] A ranking Jordanian official has told AL-QABAS that the Jordanian Government told U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that it does not see any use in his visiting the region since he insists on not ammending his initiative. The official also said that Jordan affirmed to the U.S. secretary of state that no progress can be made unless the United States acknowledges the exchange of land for peace and that a solution should be based on Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and a U.S. pledge to guarantee this.

Following is the text of the letter the Jordanian Government sent to the U.S. Administration this week, a few days before George Shultz' visit scheduled for 30 June:

1. According to the bases contained in the secretary of state's letter to his majesty the king, dated 3 March 1988, and discussions between his majesty and the secretary of the state in London on 1 and 3 March 1988 and with his highness the crown prince on 27 and 29 February 1988—in addition to numerous discussions held between officials from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the United States—the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan understands the following:

a. An international conference will be held to attain a comprehensive peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, to settle all aspects of the Palestinian cause, and to secure the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

b. The UN secretary general will invite all concerned parties in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO. The PLO will be invited since the Palestinian people should effectively participate in negotiations to determine their future.

c. Within the framework of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the international conference requires participation of the United States and the Soviet Union.

d. The role of the international conference will be a continuous one.

e. Negotiations on the final status of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights will be conducted on the basis of all principles and provisions in UN Security Council Resolution No 242. Therefore, all principles and provisions in the UN Security Council Resolution No 242 apply to all occupied territories of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights.

f. Any transitional arrangements are a step toward this final status and cannot be viewed as a separate or incremental settlement. Since temporary arrangements directly affect the final status, all principles and provisions of UN Security Council Resolution No 242 apply to all territories and resources of occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and all Palestinian people in the occupied territories, including the Palestinian inhabitants in Arab Jerusalem.

2. The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan would appreciate obtaining the clarifications of the Government of the United States on the following points, which are contained in the memorandum of understanding:

a. What are the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as perceived by the United States? Are they civil, political, and national? How would the Palestinian people exercise these rights?

b. Since settlement of all aspects of the Palestinian problem is a basis for settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, does the term "the Palestinian people" apply to Palestinians living in the diaspora, or is it confined to Palestinians of the occupied territory?

c. The international conference should have a continuous role. What does "continuous role" mean to the United States? What would be the role of the five permanent member states of the UN Security Council in this conference?

d. Why was a 6-month period set for completing talks on the interim arrangements? If the goal is to end these negotiations within a period of not more than 6 months, why should negotiations on the final status begin at the start of the 7th month? Why should not the parties concerned discuss the final status arrangements at the same time they discuss the interim arrangements, especially since it is being proposed to begin final status talks at a definite date regardless of the results of the interim arrangements negotiations? And, since the agreed goal is comprehensive settlement, why is it not being proposed that the parties concerned enter different negotiations at different times?

3. The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan would like to reaffirm its commitment to the following basic principles:

a. The inadmissibility of occupying other people's territories by war and Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories as the basis for settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the establishment of just and lasting peace.

b. Settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict requires settlement of all aspects of the Palestine issue, including the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

c. Settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine question must be comprehensive, and the negotiations to reach such a comprehensive settlement must only take place within the international conference.

d. The international conference must not be a mere ceremonial meeting for the sole purpose of beginning direct negotiations. It must reflect the lasting moral weight of the five permanent member states of the Security Council to help the disputing parties reach just, lasting, and comprehensive peace.

e. The principles of Security Council Resolution No 242 apply to all occupied Arab territories and form the basis of negotiations in the bilateral committees. As principles, they are nonnegotiable in these committees.

f. Jordan, as an independent and sovereign state, is ready to attend an international conference along with the other concerned parties. Jordan will not represent the Palestinian people on behalf of the PLO. However, Jordan is ready to attend such a conference through a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation if the concerned parties agree to this arrangement.

In light of the contact with George Shultz on his coming tour of the region at the end of next week and also in view of the clear Jordanian letter, informed sources have asserted to AL-QABAS that the Jordanian Government asked George Shultz not to visit Amman if he has no answer to the Jordanian questions contained in this letter or to the memorandum handed to the secretary of state during his recent Amman visit. This memorandum reviews all U.S. pledges on withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the Jerusalem issue.

Moreover, Jordan wants to know if the United States still adheres to its pledges, whether given during official talks at a summit level, at various levels, in exchanged messages, or in contacts held via the U.S. Embassy in Amman and the Jordanian Embassy in Washington. This Jordanian memorandum also has a complete file on all U.S. stands and pledges regarding Israeli withdrawal. Jordan focuses in particular on pledges given by the current administration and also on whether these pledges are meant for consumption or are genuine. Jordan also wants the U.S. Government to offer declared guarantees and pledges on the realization of a just settlement, which will be established on one chief basis: full withdrawal from all occupied territories.

Despite Jordan's failure to welcome the U.S. secretary of state's visit and despite Jordan's insistence on the need for the United States to reply to its recent letter, prior to any discussions, it is certain that George Shultz will visit Amman more than once as part of his regional tour, which will last approximately 1 week. Informed sources have said that this time the U.S. secretary of state will make Cairo his first and major leg, from which he will pay visits to Amman, Damascus, and the Zionist entity. These sources added that Washington attaches great importance to the Egyptian stand when it comes to influencing Jordan's reaction to the U.S. role.

Moreover, the United States will try to urge Egypt to play an effective role by tackling the negative Jordanian stand toward the settlement issue, particularly the recent Jordanian approach represented by Jordan's dissociating itself from the Palestine issue and stressing that the PLO alone will speak on behalf of the Palestinian people. From now until Shultz' visit begins, numerous contacts will be held by the United States with Jordan and other parties to warm up the U.S. initiative, which has reached the freezing point.

TIMES 'Unimpressed' By U.S. on Human Rights

JN3105102688 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 31 May 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Reagan's Double Standard"]

[Text] We are unimpressed by United States President Ronald Reagan's human rights road show in Moscow. In fact, we find it rather ironic that Mr. Reagan should spend so much time and energy emphasizing Soviet denials of human rights, against a backdrop of similar human rights violations by Israel against Palestinians—the difference being that while the United States champions the human rights of Soviet Jews and other groups, it is American financial, military and diplomatic support which allows the Jews of Israel to carry out the brutal policies of death and subjugation of Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

One has to ask, as we hear the church bells ring and the Jewish dissidents regain the spotlight in Moscow: Would it be an appropriate tactic for the Palestinians to convert to Judaism, and thereby win the support of the United States? Or is this just a bit too expedient?

But, then, the American leadership is well versed in expediency, as we see from the performance of the American president in Moscow these days. We are inclined to conclude that the American goverment's view is that the Jews of the Soviet Union have greater human rights than the Arabs of Palestine. How else do we interpret the show Mr. Reagan puts on in Moscow, given the continued deaths of Palestinians at Israeli hands and the massive violations of Palestinian human rights by the American-financed Israelis? Expediency seems a pretty good explanation to us.

Of course, we do not deny the problem of human rights in the Soviet Union. There are problems, and they should be resolved, as there are human rights problems in many countries of the world, including the United States, the Arab countries, Israel and elsewhere. The real issue, as we see it, is the colossal double standard of the United States government in highlighting the plight of Soviet Jews while dealing with equally grave human rights denials elsewhere in a rather more casual manner. If nearly 200 Soviet Jews had died from Soviet guns in the past six months, wouldn't the American reaction

have been more forceful than the actual American reaction to the death of nearly 200 Palestinians by Israeli guns? You can bet your horse on that one.

Paper Urges Stand To End Israeli 'Obstinacy'

JN0106081388 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Jun 88 p 1

[Editorial: "International Responsibility and Israeli Obstinacy"]

[Text] While Soviet sources in the Moscow summit yesterday talked about positive aspects they see in the Shultz plan to reactivate the peace process in the region, Rabin was casted doubts on the usefulness of the U.S. secretary of state's new tour of a number of Arab countries and the Israeli entity this month. This doubt indicates that Israel has the premeditated intention to abort the mission of the U.S. envoy and prevent its success. This also represents a warning to the Moscow summit that taking any step, no matter how small, toward starting the peace process, will be rejected by Israel.

Needless to say, this two part result is the natural outcome of the aggressive strategy which Israel clings to. In light of this strategy, the huge dangers threatening the region become clear unless the international community, including the two superpowers, takes a firm stand forcing the Israeli political establishment to give up its obstinacy and to agree to walk down the path of just and comprehensive peace which restores stability to the region.

If the Soviet Union and the European Community are convinced that it is time to make Israel understand that it cannot resist peace forever, it is also time for the United States to do exactly the same thing. It is no secret that Washington is the last trench through which Israel is dodging the international will. If U.S. policy manages to create peace and stability in the Middle East and to assume its responsibility in the region without being shackled by Kissinger's chains, then the peace process will have a chance to move. Israeli leadership will no longer be able to burn the bridges of peace. Only then, can Washington rebuild the bridges to restore its credibility in the region.

AL-DUSTUR on Prime Minister's Visit to Syria

JN3105090288 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 31 May 88 p 1

[Editorial: "On the Path of Consultations and Joint Coordination"]

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i visited Damascus yesterday and conveyed a message from His Majesty King Husayn to his brother His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. This falls within the framework of continued consultations and joint coordination between Jordan and sisterly Syria.

The royal message carried by the prime minister acquires special importance as it comes amid an extremely delicate Arab political stage, especially since there are many issues in the Arab arena requiring consultations and coordination. In addition, many issues have to be decided in the meantime.

At the end of the superpower Moscow summit and its expected results in terms of agreement or disagreement over the Middle East issue, it is expected that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will return in another tour of the region capitals. This requires maintaining the same high degree of joint coordination among the Arab brothers observed during Shultz' previous tours.

The royal message and Prime Minister Al-Rifa'i's visit to Damascus also come on the eve of the Arab summit scheduled to discuss means to support the Palestinian popular uprising and perpetuate the legendary steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied territory against the racist Zionist invaders. Thus, continuation of coordination and consultations among Arab brothers, especially between Jordan and Syria, acquires added importance at this stage. This is in view of the huge pan-Arab responsibilities of the two fraternal countries standing in the same impregnable Arab trench against the Zionist enemy and its evil, expansionist schemes against the entire Arab nation.

Husayn Advocates Formation of New Army Division

JN2905114888 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 26 May 88 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that Jordan is about to establish a new Army division supported by armor and characterized by sophisticated military training as a prelude to joining the Jordanian Army's present combat formations. Western military sources in London have stated to AL-ITTIHAD that the division will be the nucleus of the Arab Legion [Al-Faylaq al-'Arabi] whose formation King Husayn of Jordan recently advocated for assuming the task of defending the Arab states against any external attacks.

Western Hostages Reportedly Still in Suburb

JN3105200488 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 30 May 88 pp 3, 21

[Text] Beirut—AL-ITTIHAD—A prominent Islamic fundamentalist source in Beirut has affirmed that the Western hostages are still in the southern suburb of Beirut and that their locations have been changed many times during the recent battles. A senior Lebanese official disclosed that Washington and the involved Western countries informed Tehran of their approval of the Iranian conditions if the hostages are released. Meanwhile, Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah noted that he is really embarking on efforts to end the issue.

In a statement to AL-ITTIHAD, the fundamentalist source said that during the recent battles between Amal and Hizballah, Hizballah moved the hostages many times to ensure their safety. The source denied that the hostages were moved to the Iranian Embassy in West Beirut, affirming that they are still in the suburb.

A prominent Lebanese official has quoted to AL-ITTIHAD the statement of Mohammad 'Ali Besharati, Iranian assistant foreign minister, that Tehran wants to end the issue of the hostages in a way that will serve the objective for which they were kept. The Lebanese official disclosed that Tehran began intensive contacts, away from the limelight, with the Western governments which have hostages in Lebanon, particularly with the United States, through some mediators to end this issue after the Syrian military entry into the suburb.

The Lebanese official expected a big surprise very soon with regard to the hostages, in the event the contacts on which Tehran has embarked with the involved Western countries produces positive points at this level. The official noted that these contacts have achieved great strides, particularly since the United States and other Western countries showed a readiness to approve initially the Iranian conditions, if all the remaining 21 hostages in Lebanon are released.

The Lebanese official noted that the Iranian terms are no longer hidden. The most prominent of these terms are: Washington should pay to Tehran the Iranian assets frozen in U.S. banks since the overthrow of the Shah in 1979, which amount to approximately $13 million; Washington should send to Tehran arms shipments and military spare parts; and diplomatic relations should be restored between Tehran and Washington.

In an exclusive statement to AL-ITTIHAD, Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, the spiritual leader of Hizballah, disclosed the persistent endeavor on which he is embarking to release the hostages and end this issue within frameworks and trends which will serve the Islamic fundamentalist current and its militant objectives. He noted that he is personally participating in part of the ongoing contacts to find suitable solutions to the issue of the hostages. He expressed hope that the issue will have a happy end in the near future.

Suburb Repairs To Begin; Detainees Exchanged

NC0106055388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] The southern suburb experienced a 2d calm day yesterday following the implementation of the security plan. The Syrian forces and internal security personnel continued measures to consolidate security and to prevent any show of force. Meanwhile, the suburb's reconstruction commission has declared that relief work, the clearing of rubble, and repair work on the water, telephone, and electricity networks will commence today.

In another development, the Amal Movement and Hizballah exchanged detainees at the headquarters of the Syrian observers last night. Hizballah released 126 detainees, while the Movement released 35 people.

PFLP Issues Statement on Anti-Lahd Operation

NC2905201788 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] The PFLP has issued a statement saying that the Martyr Abu Hamid al-Ashqar group attacked a position manned by agent Lahd militiamen on the Al-'Ayshiyah triangle at 1030 today. The statement affirmed that the position received direct hits and that an M-113 armored personnel carrier [APC] was destroyed. Six militiamen were either killed or wounded. The Lahd radio has acknowledged the operation and admitted that one person was killed and an APC was destroyed.

5 Katyushas Hit Metulla in Israel, Start Fire

NC3105122388 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 31 May 88

[Excerpts] The occupation forces and their agents used heavy artillery to shell Wadi Habbush from their positions on the hills overlooking the area this morning. They also shelled the town of Jba' and its environs, killing citizen Hasan Darwish and wounding several people.

Meanwhile, the occupation forces continued their siege of the town of Shab'a and prevented a number of trucks laden with vegetables and fruits from leaving the town yesterday for Hasbayya. The deportees of Shab'a have continued their move to explain the circumstances of their expulsion. In this connection, they met with Mufti 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan yesterday. [passage omitted]

In the meantime, AFP reports that five Katyusha rockets hit the town of Metulla at dawn today, setting an electricity plant in the town on fire. In addition, security sources report that the occupation forces fired 300 illumination bombs between Metulla and Al-Khiyam along the border with Lebanon last night.

Car Bomb in W. Beirut Causes 'Material Damage'

NC0106072188 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] According to a security source, this morning a white Mercedes 200 rigged with 20 kg of TNT exploded near the Sports City [in West Beirut] near a Fatah-the Uprising center. The blast caused material damage.

Paqraduni Presses for Presidential Elections

NC3005210288 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 30 May 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Attorney Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, has spoken for the free areas and all of Lebanon and the Lebanese in his comments on the car bomb crime that took place in Al-Rumayl. [passage omitted]

At his news conference this afternoon, Paqraduni said: We have been expecting what happened today, because it has been decided to create a difficult atmosphere in the eastern area before the presidential elections. They [not further identified] want to decide who should be elected president just as much as they want to harm the eastern area. He added: However, we have become used to such methods and difficulties and the citizens, as always, will prove that they are able to stand fast and confront the foreign plans.

Attorney Paqraduni stressed that violence must be kept out of the presidential elections. He called on those who try to vote through violence and blood to vote through democracy and the ballot box.

He drew attention to reports indicating that the groups led by Elie Hubayqah and As'ad Hardan of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party are preparing to create explosions in the eastern areas. He added that these groups are being watched and their activities kept under surveillance.

Regarding Syrian Information Minister Muhammad Salman's threats in connection with administrative Beirut, which he linked with the presidential elections, Paqraduni said:

[Begin recording] As far as they are concerned, administrative Beirut means the elimination of every Lebanese influence and its replacement with Syrian influence. They are clearly saying this. We have read the message. The Syrian information minister has plainly stated that the first phase was the suburb, the second phase will be the eastern area, and the third phase will be the presidential elections.

Regarding these three phases, we say: The first phase is the ejection of the Syrian Army from administrative Beirut, the second phase is the deployment of the Lebanese Army in all of administrative Beirut, and the third phase is the holding of Lebanese elections in accordance with the Lebanese Constitution and at the time laid down in the Lebanese Constitution.

The administrative Beirut we seek is exactly the reverse of the administrative Beirut they seek. They want an administrative Beirut without any Lebanese influence, but with Syrian influence. We want an administrative Beirut under Lebanese influence and control, from which every non-Lebanese influence has been eliminated. They are clearly saying that there will be no elections without administrative Beirut. We also clearly say that there will be no administrative Beirut under occupation. [end recording]

The deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces went on to explain that if the Syrians leave Beirut and the suburb, the Lebanese Forces will withdraw from the capital. He rejected any comparison between the legitimate Lebanese Army and the illegitimate Syrian Army. He said that the Syrian stand on administrative Beirut means that West Beirut is a Syrian responsibility and East Beirut is a Lebanese responsibility.

It is as if the Lebanese in West Beirut were only half Lebanese and those in East Beirut alone were fully Lebanese, he said. He affirmed that all the Lebanese in both areas are Lebanese, the only difference being that the sons of West Beirut are helpless, whereas the sons of the eastern area are still free.

Attorney Paqraduni said that Syrian talk about administrative Beirut is paving the way for obstruction of the presidential elections and turning them into a matter for blackmail. He emphasized that what is required is elections, irrespective of the circumstances.

New Government Sought

NC3005210488 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 30 May 88

[Excerpts] Attorney Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, has stated: The verbal message reached us yesterday and the bloody message reached us today. We understand and know how to read and how to answer all these messages. However, we will not respond to these messages with the logic of blood, but rather with the logic of the mind. [passage omitted]

Paqraduni said: [Begin recording] The situation is as follows: We reject the principle of bartering security for land. Every time they disturb security, they come and ask for land in return for security. We reject this principle.

We have a proposal. We accept the idea of administrative Beirut on two conditions. The first is the formation of a new government, which will be able to draw up a security plan for administrative Beirut, declare an administrative Beirut, and ask the Lebanese Army to take over administrative Beirut. The Army cannot

assume any security duties unless a decision is made by the Council of Ministers. Therefore, the first condition is the establishment of a new government. The second condition is the deployment of the Lebanese Army in all of administrative Beirut and the withdrawal of the Syrian Army from all of administrative Beirut, so that administrative Beirut will be under the control of one army, the Lebanese Army.

This is not the first time they have made impossible conditions for the elections. Yesterday we heard that there will be no elections before reforms are achieved. Of course, they complicate the reforms and consequently no elections are held. Today we are hearing a new tune: No elections without an administrative Beirut. Of course, they can complicate administrative Beirut and consequently there will be no elections.

Therefore, I regard all this talk as tantamount to paving the way for obstruction of the elections and for making the elections a matter of bargaining and blackmail for the Lebanese. We are not going to fall into this trap. We responded to this some time ago. We said: We want elections with or without reform and we want elections with or without reconciliation. Today, we say that we want elections with or without administrative Beirut. For this reason, I regard what is happening today as tantamount to a plan to obstruct the presidential elections. It is clear that this is what Syria is doing, especially after the Syrian information minister's statement.

I do not believe that there is a U.S.-Syrian deal at the expense of Lebanon. There really is a Syrian proposal to the United States, not a deal. Syria is telling the United States: We represent the Muslims; you represent the Christians. Let us, as Americans and Syrians, agree, without the Christians and the Muslims. Whatever agreement we reach we will impose on the Muslims and you will impose on the Christians.

Therefore, there is a Syrian proposal to the United States about a Syrian-U.S. deal. The fact is that the Americans do not accept this logic. The Americans do not agree to impose anything on the Christians. They do not agree to take the place of the Christians as Syria is imposing itself on the Muslims and taking the place of the Muslims. [passage omitted]

I do not expect a Lebanese solution in the near future. There will be no Lebanese solution before the elections, but I certainly do see a Lebanese solution during President al-Jumayyil's tenure. Al-Jumayyil will be president to the last minute. I do not yet see that the time has come to declare our candidate. All that is being done now is preparatory work for the declaration of our candidate. We can say that we will not have a candidate in May, but we will most certainly have one in August. [end recording]

Opposition Rejects New Government Proposal

JN2905100488 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
29 May 88 p 24

[Text] Beirut—The leaders of the Lebanese opposition, headed by Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss have turned down a request communicated to them by U.S. officials concerning Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's desire to form a new government to supervise presidential elections.

Lebanese government sources have said that the Americans are opposed to the formation of a new government under the current circumstances. They advised President al-Jumayyil on the need to give up this idea because it could further widen the existing gap between the presidency and the government and could have a negative effect on the general situation, especially on the issue of the presidential elections.

On the other hand, government sources said that the Lebanese president has drafted decrees to discharge several high-ranking officials before the end of his term in office. One of these is Army Commander Major General Michel 'Awn and Central Bank Governor Edmund Nu'ayn. Acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, however, has refused to sign these decrees and has returned them to the presidential palace. He considers these measures unnecessary at present and that they could aggravate the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Information Minister Speaks on Suburb Deployment

JN2905064788 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Damascus—Information Minister Muhammad Salman has stated that Syria's decision to deploy Syrian forces in Beirut's southern suburb has been in response to the call of the sons of the suburb and to the call of the loyal sons of Lebanon.

He said that it was also an affirmation and implementation of President Hafiz al-Asad's promise to save the sons of the suburb from the perils of internecine fighting.

At a news conference last night attended by Arab and foreign news agencies and television correspondents, Salman said that the lapse of time between the date when the decision on the Syrian Arab Army's entrance to the suburb was made and the hour of its implementation had been intended so that entering the suburb might take place without our increasing the tragedy.

The delay was also intended to spare the Lebanese people more losses in life which could have been sustained had entrance to the suburb taken place as Lebanon's enemies had expected.

Salman said: When Syria entered Lebanon in 1976, it did so from the premise of a pan-Arab concept to end the fighting among the sons of the same people and for everyone's sake. He added: The more we succeed in uniting the Lebanese and entrenching the relationship which exists among them, the more we provide them with opportunities to defend Lebanon.

The information minister said that the Syrian forces deployment in the southern suburb of Beirut is the second step allowing West Beirut to attain the stage of administrative Beirut so that Lebanon may regain its vitality. He explained that Syrian forces will ban armed manifestations in the southern suburb of Beirut to mobilize resources to defend Lebanon against the Israeli enemy. He said that the Syrian forces will withdraw from the suburb after security has been restored and after that the Lebanese internal security forces will assume the task of maintaining order.

The information minister said: We look forward to a Lebanon that will be united in terms of people and land under the command of a central authority which will enjoy the prerogative of decisionmaking and a parliament which will be the highest authority, as well as the cancellation of sectarianism in Lebanon. He added that in the past Syria had done its best to obtain the release of hostages. Syria will continue to exert efforts to release the other hostages irrespective of their nationalities.

The minister concluded by saying that Syria will not permit the entrenchment of divisions in Lebanon. Syria will also permit weapons to be carried only in defense of Lebanon and its Arab character. All those who fight Lebanon's enemies will be supported and assisted by Syria and all those who collaborate and coordinate with the Zionist enemy and with Lebanon's enemies will not be allowed to continue on this course, no matter how much they try to conceal this under false slogans.

Al-Asad's Brother Reportedly Inspects PKK Camps

NC0106083388 Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish 28 May 88 p 9

[Text] Diyarbakir—Former PKK militant Hasan Adak, who surrendered himself to the security forces in the vicinity of Siirt some time ago, has disclosed that President Hafiz al-Asad's brother, Jamil al-Asad, inspected PKK camps in Syria.

Hasan Adak, who was kidnapped by PKK militants at the age of 12, admitted that he took part in a number of bloody PKK operations in eastern and southeastern Anatolia over a 4-year period. He said he was a member of the band which was responsible for murdering 67 defenseless people.

Hasan Adak's revelations to the Diyarbakir State Security Court prosecutor filled 119 pages. In addition to revealing a number of previously unknown aspects of the PKK organization, Adak claimed that President Hafiz al-Asad's brother, Jamil al-Asad, inspected the PKK camps in Syria.

He said that Jamil al-Asad visited the Mahsun Korkmaz military training camp, which is in a mountainous area between Syria and Lebanon, together with PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan.

Adak added: "Jamil al-Asad told the PKK members that Syria will continue to support them. His words were very effective on the new recruits, who were PKK sympathizers."

Adak also claimed that the PKK received material support from Lebanon, Libya, and a number of other Arab countries. He said that the PKK used the funds it received from the countries to purchase arms.

Bulgarian Communist Party Delegation Arrives

Met at Airport

JN2705164688 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] A delegation from the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP], headed by Comrade Dimitur Stanishev, BCP secretary and chief of Foreign Policy and International Relations Department of the BCP Central Committee, arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a several-day visit to Syria at the invitation of the Regional Command.

He was received at Damascus International Airport by Comrade Ahmad Qabalan, Regional Command member and president of the Syrian-Bulgarian Friendship Society; the comrade chief of Foreign Relations Department at the National Command [not further identified]; a number of party comrades; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus.

The delegation will hold party and political talks with a number of comrade officials of the party and government.

Received by Al-Ahmar

JN2805164688 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Damascus, 28 May (SANA)—Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received here today Comrade Dimitur Stanishev, Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP) Central Committee secretary and chief of the Foreign Policy and International Relations Department of the PCP Central Committee, who is currently visiting Syria at the invitation of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

During the meeting, the discussion centered on the current political situation in the region, particularly the continuous and escalating Palestinian Arab people's uprising against occupation and the continuous Zionist aggression against the Arab nation.

The discussion also dealt with the situation in Lebanon and Syria's role in confronting the Zionist invasion and imperialist designs and its support of Arab causes, in addition to bilateral relations between the two parties and steps taken to foster and develop their relations in the interest of the two friendly parties.

Comrade Stanishev affirmed the BCP's interest in exchanging viewpoints and coordinating with the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party on all matters related to joint action and struggle.

Al-Ahmar asserted Syria's firm stand on confronting Israel's aggression against the Arab nation. the liberation of the Arab territory, and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights, particularly their rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil. He also asserted Syria's efforts to convene an effective international conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

Meets with Khaddam

JN3005115288 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] At 1000 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Comrade Dimitur Stanishev, Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee secretary and chief of the Foreign Policy and International Relations Department of the BCP Central Committee, and the accompanying delegation.

The meeting was attended by the Bulgarian ambassador in Damacus. The talks centered on the world situation, developments in the Middle East, and relations between Syria and Bulgaria.

Discusses Party Relations

JN3105141988 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Comrade Dr Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the party, received this morning Comrade Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP], and the members of his delegation. The Bulgarian ambasador to Syria was present.

During the meeting, aspects of cordial relations between the two parties and people in the two friendly countries were surveyed. These relations were firmly established, developed, and advanced to the highest levels by the two comrades Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and Todor Zhivkov, BCP secretary genral. They have become a model of equal relations on an international level.

The comrade assistant regional secretary affirmed the principled and firm stands of our country in light of political developments in the region. He also praised the noble stands taken by the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist bloc countries in supporting the Arab cause and strengthening the steadfastness of our country against imperialist and Zionist schemes.

Comrade Stanishev expressed his great admiration for the huge achievements that have been made as a result of the wise, principled and courageous policy pursued by our country. He also expressed the appreciation of the Bulgarian people for the historic leadership of Comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, who the Bulgarian people consider one of the most prominent leaders who expresses big ambitions and wide hopes to liberate nations. Comrade Stanishev reiterated the stand of the People's Republic of Bulgaria which is in favor of our nation's issues in general and the question of Palestine in particular.

DPRK Officials Visit, Discuss Relations

Address Arab Struggle

JN2805123988 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received Comrade Pyon Yong-nip, leader Kim Il-song's special envoy, member of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee, and chairman of the government committee for education in the DPRK. The meeting was attended by the DPRK ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two countries and parties. They also reviewed the current political situation in the arab region and the world as well as both countries' constant principled and militant stands against imperialist and Zionist forces.

Yong-nip expressed appreciation for Syria's successes, major role in supporting the Palestinian Arab people's struggle to regain their legitimate rights, and confrontation of imperialism and its schemes under President struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic.

Meet with Khaddam

JN2805150088 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1433 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Damascus, 28 May (SANA)—This afternoon, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Pyon Yong-nip, DPRK President Kim Il-song's envoy, and the accompanying delegation. The DPRK ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Meet with Education Minister

JN2905164188 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Damascus, 29 May (SANA)—Higher Education Minister Dr Kamal Sharaf today received Pyon Yong-nip, chairman of the DPRK Education Committee and personal envoy of President Kim Il-song. During the meeting, they reviewed cultural and scientific relations between Syria and the DPRK and ways to enhance them.

Conveys Message to Al-Asad

JN3105174888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Pyon Yong-nip, envoy of DPRK President Kim Il-song, at 1300 today. The meeting was attended by the DPRK ambassador in Damascus. Pyon Yong-nip conveyed a written message to the president from President Kim Il-song. The talks centered on the situation in the Middle East, the Far East, and bilateral relations.

The DPRK envoy expressed admiration for the struggle of the Syrian Arab people under President al-Asad to achieve a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East, liberate the occupied Arab territories, and restore the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

He said that the DPRK highly appreciates Syria's efforts to establish strategic parity with Israel in defense of national independence and in protection of the great achievements of Syria under President al-Asad. He also voiced his admiration for progress and development in Syria as well as his country's solidarity with Syria's principled positions.

Ba'th Party Official Receives Soviet Delegation

JN3106201888 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1548 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Damascus, 31 May (SANA)—Dr Wahib Tannus, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and chairman of the Syrian Arab-Soviet Friendship Society, received here today the Soviet friendship delegation headed by Comrade Tord Jikin, chairman of the State Committee for Printing and Publication [name and title as received], who is currently visiting Syria.

During the meeting, Tannus expressed appreciation for the distinguished relations between Syria and the Soviet Union as well as for the Soviet Government's support for the struggle of our people and nation against imperialism, Zionism, and all forms of conspiracy and aggression. He also hailed the uprising of our people against the Zionist occupation and its brutal means.

Comrade Tord Jikin also expressed his full satisfaction with the level of the friendly relations and the joint actions between the two countries. He also praised progress in Syria in the various political, cultural, and social areas and stressed Soviet support for our just struggle.

Afghanistan

Commentary on Soviet Foreign Ministry Statement

LD0106075988 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 1 Jun 88

["A Commentary on USSR Foreign Ministry Statement"—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, May 31, BAKHTAR—The statement of the USSR Foreign Ministry in which deep concern is expressed of the flagrant violations of the official authorities of Pakistan from the Geneva accords ratifies the notices given by the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan to the UN good offices mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan based in Kabul on the gross violations of Pakistani authorities from Geneva accords. [sentence as received] It also makes it clear that the Pakistani words do not match their deeds.

The statement indicates that two weeks have passed since the entry into force of the Geneva accords, and the optimism which accompanied the completing of the Geneva diplomatic process is increasingly yielding place to bewilderment and (?disappointment) felt by all the peace forces which sincerely wish to see an end to the bloodshed and the establishment of stability in the much-suffering land of Afghanistan.

Not to make (?unsubstantiated statements), one can cite concrete facts. Thus, for instance, the official Pakistani Government organisations ensure an unobstructed transfer of units of the armed Afghan opposition as well as of caravans with arms through the numerous mountain passes, including Qarghah'i, Shin Ghar, Lawen Juy, Arandu and others. Intensive use for these purposes is also made of the caravan routes going through the Khyber, Kurram and Bolan mountain passes.

The central headquarters of the armed opposition, which is part of the "alliance of seven" situated in the Pakistani territory, operates following its usual routine.

(?Still) undismantled and operational in Pakistan are the centres (?for) training the detachments of rebels and saboteurs, and (?large) armed formations of the "aliance" are also there. On May 21 the Pakistani authorities "recommended" that the leadership of the "alliance" step up its shipments of arms and ammunitions into the Afghan territory, the statement recalls.

In the light of the above stated, it appears to be utterly natural if the Soviet Union and the Republic of Afghanistan, faced with such clear and evident violation by Pakistan of the provisions of the Geneva accords, should draw pertinent conclusions with respect to the time-table of the troop withdrawal and take concrete steps, caused by the illicit actions of Islamabad in any case, if the Pakistani side does not adopt appropriate measures to end interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan from its territory, the Soviet Union reserves itself the (?right) to react to this in a manner as warranted by the situation.

Guillo Claims Najibullah Killed Prisoners

LD2905074088 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] It was just before 0700 today when Alain Guillo landed at Roissy Airport after having spent more than 8 months in Afghan jails. The French journalist seemed exhausted, but in good health.

In a short statement, Alain Guillo described the conditions of his detention as absolutely deplorable, but added that this was nothing compared with the lives of the other prisoners. Isolated from the rest of the world, it is a real hell for them. Some of them were even executed in reprisals. Listen to what Guillo said:

[Begin recording] Two years ago, the current president of Afghanistan took prisoners out of their cells and executed them. He executed them to work off his own frustration over a military failure. He in fact, had organized a small operation to free Soviet prisoners captured by the Afghan resistance. When this operation failed, he took his revenge on the prisoners. It is like fish tanks there. Their conditions are absolutely terrible and they need help. [end recording]

Alain Guillo now will get some rest. I would like to sleep—that is what he said first. He will hold a press conference next Tuesday to answer any questions.

Italian May Be Released 'Within 2 or 3 Days'

LD2905200088 Paris International Service in French 1800 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Following the release of the French photographer Alain Guillo, who was held in Afghanistan, there is talk of the release of Italian journalist Fausto Biloslavo, who was held with Alain Guillo. According to the daily L'HUMANITE he should be released within 2 or 3 days.

UN Delegation Arrives, Talks With Officials

LD2905120288 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 May 88

[Excerpts] The Foreign Ministry Information Office reports that a high-ranking UN delegation, led by Prince (Sadruddin Agha Khan), who organizes UN humanitarian and economic assistance for Afghanistan, arrived in Kabul this morning.

The following welcomed him and his delegation: Mahbubullah Koshani, deputy prime minister and head of the State Planning Committee; Soraya, Afghan Red Cross chairperson; Farid Zarif, deputy foreign minister, chief of protocol, director of the international economic

and finance office, and director of the UN and International Relations Department of the Foreign Ministry; and a number of high-ranking personnel from the UN development program and specialized establishments in Kabul. [passage omitted]

According to another report, Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, this afternoon received Prince (Sadruddin Agha Khan) and his accompanying delegation at the office of the presidency. During this meeting, Esteemed Najibullah expressed appreciation for the readiness of the international community to cooperate with the Afghan people in their struggle to end the war and establish peace, return and resettle compatriots, and economically restructure the country.

He also talked about the Islamic, patriotic, and humane national reconciliation policy and the consequences of the Geneva accords. He expressed the wish that the sides concerned with the accords will carry out their commitments with honesty.

The UN delegation held talks this morning with an Afghan delegation led by Esteemed Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq, prime minister-designate. Mahbubullah Koshani, deputy prime minister and head of the State Planning Committee, a number of ministers and deputies of the relevant ministries, and the Afghan Red Cross chairperson were also present at Gol Khanah Palace, the Council of Ministers headquarters.

During these talks, views were exchanged on various aspects of issues related to the return of emigrants and assistance by international organizations in this sphere and the reconstruction and reviving of the country's economy.

Prince (Sadruddin Agha Khan) and his accompanying delegation attended a luncheon which was given in their honor by the prime minister-designate at Gol Khanah headquarters.

According to another report, the high-ranking UN delegation met this afternoon at the Foreign Ministry with Deputy Foreign Minister Farid Zarif, during which they spoke about the details of the joint operations of that organization and their fulfillment in Afghanistan.

The UN delegation left Kabul this evening after carrying out the necessary negotiations. [passage omitted]

Prior to departing from Kabul International Airport, the visiting delegation took part in a news conference and replied to questions by foreign and Afghan correspondents.

UN Notified of Pakistani Violations of Accords

5th, 6th Violations Reported

LD2705230888 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] The coordination office of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan and the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan [UNGOMAP] report that recently, during a meeting with the authorities of these offices in Kabul at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, accurate information on the gathering centers and subsequent transfer of arms and ammunition inside Afghanistan was put at their disposal. Also in this connection, the fifth memorandum of the Foreign Affairs Ministry was handed over to UNGOMAP in Kabul at 1530 on 27 May 1988.

In the memorandum it was requested that in conforming with the provisions of the Geneva Memorandum of Understanding, UNGOMAP should dispatch assessment delegations to the places mentioned in Memorandum No 5, and investigate the circumstances of the transfer of arms and ammunition inside Afghanistan. The memorandum also requested that UNGOMAP put the information received at the disposal of the authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan as soon as possible.

According to another report from the coordination office, the sixth memorandum of the Republic of Afghanistan was handed over to UNGOMAP in Kabul this evening.

In the memorandum, UNGOMAP's attention was drawn to the contents of the previous memorandum by the Republic of Afghanistan, which includes accurate information on the situation and activities of the offices, training centers, bases, arms and ammunition depots, and routes for the delivery of armaments to the extremists opposition inside Afghanistan.

It has been requested that in light of reliable information on the activities of the aforementioned establishments and a noteable increase in the delivery of combat equipment into Afghanistan, UNGOMAP should inform the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan as soon as possible on the measures and steps taken-by UNGOMAP and the Government of Pakistan within the framework of the Geneva documents.

In the memorandum, the serious need for both sides complete and honest observance of their committment to the Geneva accords has again been stressed.

8th Pakistani Violation Noted

LD3105185088 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's coordination office with the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan [UNGOMAP] reports that the ninth note of the

Republic of Afghanistan was delivered to the mission this evening. Eight other clear cases of violations of the provisions of Article 2 of Document 4, of the Geneva accords have been brought to the mission's attention.

The mission is again requested to consider Pakistan's violation in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 7, Document 4, and the Geneva Memorandum of Understanding. It is also requested to bring its report to the attention of the sides so that practical measures can be taken to prevent these violations.

Analysts Views Ziaul Haq's Changes in Government

LD3105063988 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Kabul, May 30, BAKHTAR—Pakistani military ruler, Ziaul Haq, dissolved the parliament and civilian government of M. Junejo on May 29.

Political analysts are of the conviction that many aims are behind this move made by Ziaul Haq. Junejo, dismissed prime minister of Pakistan, not only was in favour of signing of Geneva accords but of their implementation as well. He earlier to the signing of Geneva accords called upon all opposition parties on the subject which revealed the fact that not only the opposition parties but the public opinion of Pakistan had similar views favouring the Geneva accords. Now, when the accords are signed, Ziaul Haq's regime is not willing to keep its commitments and to translate them into practice.

According to informed sources, Junejo wanted to expand civilian government as well as democracy and to diminish the Ziaul Haq's autocratic power as the dismissed prime minister recently clearly asked Ziaul Haq to resign as president of Pakistan from the posts of chief of staffs of the armed forces. Moreover, the Parliament of Pakistan recently discussed the reduction of military expenditure due to economic crisis in that country and it is natural that such moves made by Junejo and the Parliament of Pakistan do not suit Ziaul Haq and his clique.

Political observers believe that the Junejo's government had assigned a committee to investigate the causes of explosions in refugee camp in Islamabad. According to the estimate made by western sources the explosions took the lives of thousands of people and weapons worth at ten million dollars were burned out. Observers say it is natural that the investigation caused to expose the direct role of Ziaul Haq and the Pakistani Army in lethal trade and deal of weapons to the peoples of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

As reported by Pakistani press, the people of Pakistan are getting united by every passing day in the struggle [for] rights and freedoms, national alliance of Sind has been formed alongside Pashtuns and Baluchi people who struggle unitedly. The rightful move of Sind people affected Punjabi people which caused anxiety for Ziaul Haq's regime.

To justify his coup d'etat against civilian government and the Parliament of that country, Ziaul Haq raise apparently the reason of non-existence of security and stability in Pakistan. True, there is insecurity in Pakistan but observers believe that the existing conditions are the results of Ziaul Haq's ten-years old regime, during which the people were deprived of their most primary rights on one hand and has converted the Pakistani soil into a centre of staging secessionist and interventionist activities against Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Gen. Ziaul Haq has promised, to hold elections within ninety days but, according to informed sources he would not keep his words as this time and again. Otherwise, he will act as to preserve his autocratic power.

According to international media, Ziaul Haq wants to prolong the war against Afghanistan through extremist groupings by dissolving the civilian government and the Parliament of Pakistan, to get access to military and financial aids and thus to survive in power.

Withdrawing Soviet Troops Said Avoiding Kabul

BK2905131088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1258 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, May 29 (AFP) — Soviet troops withdrawing from the eastern Afghan garrison towns of Ghazni and Gardeyz will take the long way home, travelling south and west, apparently to avoid Kabul, people returning from Afghanistan said here Sunday.

The troops will travel via Herat in western Afghanistan, having to cover 1,000 kilometers to reach the Soviet border instead of the 600 kilometers they would have to cover if they went north to Kabul and then on along the Salang highway, the returning travellers said.

The move was apparently designed to ensure the safety of the Soviet troops, western diplomats said.

The mujahidin resistance last week cut the road between Ghazni and Kabul around Seyyedabad, about halfway between the two towns, the people arriving in Peshawar said, and were also concentrating their forces around Gardeyz and along the road from there to the Afghan capital.

The travellers, who included members of humanitarian organisations providing medicine to the rebels, said they had several times seen Afghan Army officers talking with mujahidin commanders.

"We were told that some Afghan officers often offer money and arms (to the mujahidin) in exchange for their safety," one said.

This account was in line with reports that the Afghan Army command a week ago sent several units from Ghazni to the garrison town of Jalalabad, replacing them with troops from Jalalabad to prevent soldiers forming links with the mujahidin.

The travellers, who spent several days in the Ghazni and Gardeyz area with the mujahidin, said they had seen convoys of Soviet tanks, armoured cars and troop transports leaving Gardeyz, travelling through Ghazni some 90 kilometers to the west and then taking the road south towards Qandahar.

Qandahar, the country's second largest city, is the site of a major Soviet airbase and several thousand Moscow troops are there.

Soviet helicopters were "incessantly coming and going" from Ghazni towards Gardeyz to the east and Qandahar to the south, mostly at dusk, one witness said.

The road at the northern entrance to Ghazni is floodlit at light for several kilometers to prevent the mujahidin mining it under cover of darkness, another said.

Mujahidin trucks laden with arms arrive without problems from Pakistan in the Ghazni region and are supplying the resistance daily, the travellers said.

"The mujahidin even walk around the suburbs of Ghazni at night carrying their Kalashnikovs with no problem," one said.

The resistance said Sunday it had taken the town of Qarah Bagh, some 50 kilometers south of Ghazni on the Qandahar road, "which has just been evacuated by the Soviets."

A well-informed source in the Pakistan border town of Quetta however questioned the mujahidin claim and their ability to prevent the Soviets using the road to Qandahar.

The source confirmed that the Soviet forces had left Qarah Bagh, but said the mujahidin were fighting amonx themselves for control of the town, with the Hazaras tribe, Iranian-supported Shi'ite Moslems, battling with Peshawar-based rebels backed by Pakistan.

Six Mujahidin Groups Vow Not To Attack Soviets

PM3105123588 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 May 88 p 6

[Zaki Musa report: "Islamic Liberation Front Leader To AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: We Will Stop Attacking Withdrawing Soviet Forces"]

[Text] The leaders of six Afghan mujahidin organizations have promised not attack the Soviet forces as they withdraw from Afghan territory but to concentrate on attacking government garrisons and escalating their struggle against the Kabul regime until it is toppled, until an Islamic state is established, and until an Islamic government is elected by the Afghan people.

This was revealed in a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT by Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, leader of the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Afghanistan, which is a distinguished Afghan mujahidin organization.

Contacted by telephone at his command headquarters in Peshawar, Gaylani said that fears about a civil war breaking out in Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal are not justified, since that can easily be prevented.

Gaylani pointed out that "fortunately, some individuals have been assigned to form a council." He also said that "this council must be backed by the Afghan people. By that I mean all the mujahidin, refugees, and those living in exile, as well as those residing in the country, since all those people have made victory possible."

The Islamic Liberation Front leader pointed out that the time has come to form a unified leadership of all the Afghan mujahidin organizations in order to limit differences in viewpoints.

He admitted that there are differences, and said: "If that were not the case, we would have been one single organization."

He added: "But despite this we are in agreement over the main objectives—getting rid of the agent Kabul government, establishing an Islamic state, and eliminating the threat of foreign influence.

Gaylani said: The support we receive from Muslim brothers and fraternal Islamic states has played an important role in reaching the present stage. And undoubtedly this will help us in the near future to achieve our objectives and proclaim the Islamic state.

Gaylani described the attacks on the withdrawing Soviet forces as erroneous. He said: "We will not attack the withdrawing forces, since it is unreasonable to stop a foreign force from leaving our country. Unfortunately we are not in total agreement over that, but we are making contacts in this regard (it was announced later that six Afghan organization have committed themselves not to attack the Soviet forces).

Gaylani concluded his interview by saying: "The next stage will witness dramatic changes, with concentration on hitting and attacking government garrisons." He also said that there will be more coordination and communications in order to deal with the next stage and fill the vacuum that will result from the withdrawal of Soviet forces and the Afghan Government's retreat into the cities and some main areas.

Update on Soviet Withdrawal, Rebel Attacks
BK3105125988 Hong Kong AFP in English 1225 GMT 31 May 88

[By Alain Boebion]

[Text] Islamabad, May 31 (AFP)—Afghan resistance guerrillas have stepped up their pressure on Kabul in the past week with an unprecedented number of rocket attacks on the capital, Western diplomats here said Tuesday.

The diplomats also said that Moscow was continuing to supply Afghan President Najibullah's government with military equipment.

The rebels carried out 14 rocket attacks on Kabul between May 23 and May 29, mostly against the southern and southwestern districts of the capital where Soviet and Afghan forces are concentrated, the diplomats said.

They said it was the heaviest series of rocket attacks carried out by the mujahidin on Kabul.

Citing "reliable" reports from the capital, the diplomats said Soviet and Afghan troops were setting up positions in 11 districts of Kabul in a bid to "defend it from the interior."

They said that some embassies, including the Soviet and Bulgarian missions, had begun to evacuate personnel. A Bulgarian diplomat seriously wounded in a rocket attack was among those being withdrawn, the diplomats said.

The Western diplomats also claimed for the second time in a week to have evidence that Moscow was continuing to supply the Kabul regime with weapons.

An Antonov 12, a four-engine transport plane, with Afghan insignia appeared at Kabul airport for the first time on May 23, they said.

Afghan soldiers were seen unloading crates of weapons from its hold and putting them into a similar plane, the diplomats said.

During the next few days, other planes brought in equipment, including infrared scopes made in Czechoslovakia, they said.

New radars have also been installed at the airport which could help ensure the safety of flights at night, the diplomats said.

Western diplomatic sources also confirmed Tuesday that the garrison towns of Ghazni and Gardeyz some 100 kilometres (62 miles) south and southeast of the capital were being evacuated.

"There were farewell ceremonies for Soviet troops at Ghazni on May 28," a diplomat said.

The diplomats said East German and Bulgarian advisers had left the northwest city of Herat, where Afghan rebels destroyed a large Afghan Army munitions depot last week, because of "major security problems."

Travellers returning from Jalalabad, 140 kilometres (87 miles) east of Kabul and 90 kilometres (56 miles) from the Pakistani border, said there were still Soviet troops in the strategic garrison town.

Their claims supported those made over the past few days by members of the Afghan resistance concentrated south of Jalalabad.

The Afghan rebels have claimed that there are "not only Soviet advisers (in Jalalabad) but also units specializing in anti-guerrilla warfare."

The Soviet Union said one week after the Geneva accord went into effect on May 15 that all its troops had been pulled out of Jalalabad.

The Geneva accord calls for a phased withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. Some 50-60,000 soldiers are to be pulled out by August 15, 1988 with the remainder to be removed by February 15, 1989.

Moscow had said that 30,000 Soviet troops would be pulled out of Afghanistan before the Reagan-Gorbachev summit began Sunday.

But Western diplomats here said that Soviet troops not only remain in Jalalabad but that Moscow had also failed in its objective of pulling out 30,000 troops by Sunday for "logistical" reasons.

They estimated that 8,000 Soviet troops were withdrawn between May 15 and May 30. Moscow claimed to have evacuated 9,500 men after the first week.

Rebel, Government Operations, Clashes Reported

Missiles Fired on Herat

LD2805091788 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 28 May 88

[Excerpt] Kabul, May 27, BAKHTAR—The elements attached to the armed extremist groups have recently launched ground-to-ground rockets on residential areas to Herat city and congregational mosque of Herat.

As a result of this criminal action, the congregational mosque sustained partial damage and a number of residential house were destroyed. [passage omitted]

5 Injured in Konarha Attack

LD2905090688 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] The extremist criminals have injured five persons including women and children by firing heavy weapons on residential areas in Asadabad city, Konarha province.

The military section of BIA reported that as a result of the firing of missiles yesterday, financial damage was sustained by a number of our compatriots.

Rebels 'Crushed' in Ghazni

LD2905092188 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] The country's security forces react strongly against those extremists groups who want to disrupt the peaceful life of our compatriots by committing terrorist acts, and foil their sinister conspiracies.

The military section of BIA reports that two terrorist groups linked to extremists bands, who intended to disrupt the people's life in the areas around Ghazni Province, were recently crushed in the regions of Khak-e Baba and Godowl by the alert security forces with the cooperation of the people. Two ringleaders of those groups, (Ahmadullah) and (Hayatullah), were also included among those who were crushed.

According to another report, the six-man terrorist group engaged in terrorist activities and in spreading fear in areas around Khowst district, was crushed yesterday in the region of (Moghol Khel) by the border forces.

Another report from Faryab Province states that the 10-man extremist group which had been disrputing the peaceful life of the people in Meymaneh city, Faryab Province, by firing heavy weapons, was crushed yesterday as a result of blows inflicted on them by the Armed Forces. A number of extremists' hideouts were destroyed in the region of [name indistinct].

'Heavy Losses' in Qandahar

LD3105211988 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Islamabad, May 31, IRNA—Afghan mujahidin wounded three colonels of the Kabul regime and inflicted heavy losses on the joint Soviet-government troops during their operations in Qandahar Province last week.

Reports reaching here from a Kabul hospital said condition of one of the colonels is serious.

Another report from mujahidin sources said that Kabul regime's security police has arrested 200 officers and NCOs of Afghanistan Army who had intended to join mujahidin.

Meanwhile, leader of Jamiyat-e Eslami Party of Afghanistan Burhanuddin Rabbani termed Hasan Sharq, new prime minister of the Kabul regime, and Chamkani, deputy of the so-called Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan as "mercenaries", and said changing of such elements will not change the will of the Afghan Muslim people.

In an interview with IRNA in Peshawar Rabbani also described establishment of the so-called National Assembly and implementation of a ceasefire plan as "new plots against the Afghan Muslims".

Five million Afghan refugees outside their homeland and more than half of the Afghanistan population are fighting the puppet Kabul regime, and will continue their struggle until eventual victory, Rabbani said.

He said while Soviet troops have occupied Afghanistan, establishment of a national assembly is not of legal value.

5 Killed in Herat Mine Blast

LD3105224388 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Engaging in a treacherous action the criminal extremists martyred five of our faithful compatriots and one was injured. According to a BAKHTAR miliary correspondent, yesterday afternoon the criminal extremists planted a mine on the road to Gowshtah village, Enjil district, Herat Province. The victims were passengers on a bus travelling to the village for a funeral ceremony.

Protocol Signed With USSR's Astrakan Province

LD3105221888 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] A protocol of direct cooperation between the Province of Farah and the Province of Astrakhan of the RSFSR was signed today. The BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY reports that the protocol was signed on the Afghan side by Mawlawi Mustafa Farahi, governor of

Farah Province, and on the Soviet side by (Kanov), deputy chairman of the Executive Committee of Astarakhan Province of the RSFSR, while Sayyed Eslam Paygir, state minister for direct cooperation affairs and 'Abdul Wahed Sorani, aide to the president for the administration of state affairs were present. Documents were exchanged.

The protocol contains provisions for future assistance, from 1988-90, from Astrakhan Province to Farah Province in the fields of social services, the development of agriculture and irrigation, public health, electrical energy, and education.

Biography of Prime Minister-Designate Sharq

LD2905093488 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 May 88

[Biography of Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq, prime minister designate]

[Text] Muhammad Hasan Sharq, son of Ghulam Muhammad Khan, who was born on 16 July 1925 in Anar Darreh district of Farah Province, was enrolled in the Anar Darreh school in 1937 after 6 years of private education, and from 1940 to 1943 he attended the noncommissioned officers school of the Army in Kabul.

He studied at the medical school of Kabul from 1943 to 1946 and from 1946 to 1947 he attended the Kabul military high school. Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq enrolled in the faculty of medicine of the University of Kabul in 1947 and graduated in 1953. He was expelled four times from schools and from the university for his opposition to the regime of the time and was arrested three times.

After graduating, Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq was appointed as a doctor in the military hospital. He served as secretary in the office of the prime minister from 1953 to 1963. When the prime minister of the time resigned, Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq also resigned and stayed at home until 17 July 1973. He took part in the establishment of the Republic by Muhammad Daud on 17 July 1973. He was appointed vice president and secretary of the Central Committee on that date.

He held these positions until 1977. He was ambassador of Afghanistan to Japan from 1977 until the beginning of the April Revolution. He returned home on 10 May 1978. Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq served as ambassador of Afghanistan to the Republic of India from 1980 until 1986.

He was appointed chief of the central authority of returnees and member of the executive of the national reconciliation commission and in the same year he was appointed deputy prime minister and chairman of the state committee for the return of refugees.

In accordance with the decree of Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, he was designated prime minister and asked to form a new government on 26 May 1988. He is married and has two sons.

Senate Holds Preparatory Session 29 May

LD2905091288 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Kabul, May 28, BAKHTAR—In continuation of the holding of preparatory sessions of National Assembly of the Republic of Afghanistan, the plenary session of the Senate was held here today. A report on the results of the work of the commission on the assessment of senators documents was presented to the session.

The session which was presided over by Sayyed Halaluddin Badri, temporary chairman of the preparatory sessions of Senate, approved the report presented.

Likewise, Kabir Ranjbar, assistant to the president, read the decree by Najibullah, president of the Republic, regarding the senators appointment to the National Assembly. Under the decree, forty four social figures were appointed by the president of the Republic as senators. The permanent identity cards of the Senate were distributed to the senators.

Deputy Chairmen Elected

LD3105220388 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 May 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] BIA reports that at the Senate morning session presided over by Mahmud Habibi, chairman of the Senate; Jalaluddin Badri, senator from Balkh; and Shah Ali 'Akbar Shahrestani, senator from Oruzgan, were elected unanimously as deputy chairmen. Muhammad Omar Safi senator from Farah, and Ghulam Muhammad Muftizadh, senator from Konduz, were unanimously elected secretaries of the administrative board of the Senate. [passage omitted]

70 Prisoners Released From Pol-e Charkhi

LD3105165488 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] In accordance with the national reconciliation policy and Decree No 152 of the Republic of Afghanistan dated 25 April 1988, 70 prisoners were released today from the Pol-e Charkhi central jail.

A presidential office spokesman told BAKHTAR that the release of prisoners in the capital and the provinces is proceeding in accordance with the decree.

India

Secretary-Level Talks With Pakistan To Open 1 Jun

BK3105155988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The foreign secretary-level talks between India and Pakistan begin in New Delhi tomorrow. The Pakistani delegation led by its foreign secretary, Mr Abdul Sattar, arrived in the capital this evening.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi that the 2-day talks are being held as part of the ongoing process of consultations between the two countries.

Talks Held With Bangladesh on Border Crimes

BK3005161788 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] India and Bangladesh today held official-level talks on transborder crimes. The subjects which came up for discussion included illegal immigration, smuggling, verification, and repair of border pillars and kidnapping and cattle lifting. The talks will conclude tomorrow.

The Indian delegation was led by the director general of Border Security Force, Mr H.B. Bhatnagar, and the director general of Bangladesh Rifles, Major General S.A. Chowdhury, represented his country.

Chakma Issue Discussed

BK3105125288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] India and Bangladesh have discussed measures to check the influx of Bangladesh nationals into India. The 2-day official-level talks, which concluded in New Delhi today, also focused attention on return of Chakma refugees, maintenance of border pillars, and transborder crimes. Both sides agreed that there should be timely exchange of information and stringent steps to check smuggling and crimes like cattle lifting and kidnapping.

Natwar Singh Meets Pakistan's Noorani in Cuba

BK2905065988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, met a number of his counterparts in Havana at the venue of the ministerial meeting of the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] bureau. He had a long and informal exchange of views with the Pakistani minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani. Mr Natwar Singh told our special representative that he has accepted in principle Mr Noorani's invitation to visit Pakistan.

SGPC Removes Illegal Structures From Temple

BK3105161788 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee has started removing unauthorized structures from inside the Golden Temple complex. Our correspondent reports after visiting the complex that as a first step, the fortification raised by terrorists on ghanta ghar [clock tower] and other places in the parikrama [walkway around the Golden Temple] were removed today. Some of the wooden cabins fitted in the rooms in the parikrama along with some electrical fittings were also removed.

The deputy commissioner of Amritsar told newsmen this evening that the SGPC has agreed to meet him every day to gradually take over the possession of the Golden Temple complex. Today they were scheduled to take over the langar [community food serving] building from the district administration between 1000 and 1100 [0430 and 0530 GMT]. The SGPC representative, however, did not turn up to take its possession.

During the cleaning of a room in the parikrama, 1,000 passports were recovered. The deputy commissioner Amritsar, Mr Sarabjit Singh, has said that the SGPC at its meeting in Amritsar yesterday, did not adopt any resolution sacking the five Sikh high priests. Speaking to newsmen today he said the SGPC had only adopted a resolution regarding maintenance of the traditional religious rituals of the Golden Temple.

8 'Terrorists' Captured; 11 Persons Killed

BK2905091188 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Security forces captured eight terrorists last night without firing a single shot, in a raid on a hideout near Jaitu in Faridkot District of Punjab. A large quantity of arms and ammunition was also seized. According to the district police chief, the terrorists were responsible for killings and other crimes in Faridkot and Bhatinda Districts. He also said the security forces arrested 19 more persons, whom he described as budding terrorists.

Eleven people, including a Congress-I leader, have been shot dead by terrorists in the state since last night. The general secretary of the Ludhiana District Congress-I, Mr Atma Ram Arya, was gunned down by three terrorists at his shop on the Samrala road this morning.

A granthi [reciter of the holy scriptures] of the local gurdwara [Sikh temple], Mr Arjun Singh, who was with Mr Arya, was also killed by the terrorists. Besides, terrorists shot dead four persons, including a police constable, in Jullundur District, two in Hoshiarpur and two in Ferozepore District. One woman was shot dead at village Kaleer near Batala in Gurdaspur District.

4 Killed, 28 Injured in Bomb Explosion in Punjab

BK3105052488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] In Punjab, 4 persons were killed and 28 injured in a bomb explosion in Dinangar town of Gurdaspur District early this morning. Five of the injured are stated to be critical. The blast occurred in a crowded vegetable market. The police have arrested five persons for interrogation.

Explosives, Arms Recovered From Gurkha Camp

BK2905065588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] The West Bengal police made a big haul of explosive materials from a GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] arms training camp at Kalimpong yesterday. According to the district magistrate nine GNLF militants were arrested from the camp which was discovered during raids on GNLF hideouts. Arms seized from the camp include rifles, guns, and a large number of bombs.

The militants threw bombs at the residence of an engineer of the state Public Works Department and exploded another one at a motor stand in Darjeeling. No casualty or damage has been reported in any of the two incidents.

Iran

Further Reportage on Opening of Third Majlis

Mohtashemi Election Report

NC3005100588 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1745 GMT 28 May 88

["Report" presented by Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi at the opening session of the third Majlis in Tehran on 28 May—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] I wish to present to the honorable Majlis my report on the elections to the third session of the Majlis in three parts: the special conditions under which the elections were held; the preparations for and the quality of the elections; and the outcome of the elections.

Part I. The special conditions under which the elections were held:

It is an Islamic and revolutionary duty to carry out a careful review of all the conditions under which the elections were held so that the details will be recorded in the glorious history of this brave and Muslim nation for the benefit of future generations, who may then have access to the record of the epics which their heroic predecessors created.

I believe it necessary to briefly point out that the elections for the third Majlis session were held with the extensive, healthy, and calm presence of the people. They were held at a time when the foreign enemies and their domestic sympathizers, and also when some easily duped and uninformed people had tried with all their strength to disrupt the elections, thus resulting in a weak and inactive participation by the people and, if neither of these two wishes were fulfilled, to portray an incorrect picture of the elections as the third act of their plot.

The statements made by these elements through the arrogant mass media, the rumors and various statements they disseminated, and the discussions held in private circles were primarily aimed at weakening the morale of the people and creating disbelief that the elections would be held and the people would welcome them. They also hoped that, by encouraging the criminal of Baghdad to continue to intensify the war of the cities as a psychological weapon and by using the missiles provided by Eastern arrogance—which has always been a tool in the hands of Western arrogance in Iran—they could destroy the people's steadfastness.

They also hoped that, if the officials remained determined to hold the elections on the set date, they could, through these measures, prevent the people from participating. All of these actions took place because world arrogance finally realized that, despite all of its unsound reasoning in relation to the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the Islamic Republic is a 100 percent popular system based on the people and on the people's direct and all-embracing role in administration. Therefore, as the realization of the people's wants and the clearest manifestation of their direct and all-embracing role, the Majlis has become the most suitable target for attacks from world arrogance.

However, thanks to God and under the aegis of the prophet-like leadership of the imam of the ummah and thanks to the alert obedience of the brave Iranian nation, these plots were thwarted as in the past. Therefore, on the morning of 8 April, people throughout the Islamic Iran answered, in a spirited manner, their leader, who had said: I will participate in the elections under any condition. They went to the polling stations and cast over 17 million votes, which were like 17 million bullets aimed at the wounded heart of world arrogance and of the enemies of the imam and of the revolution.

Once again the entire world witnessed the people's faithfulness to the Islamic Republic. With its epical presence, the Hezbollah ummah of Iran was able to destroy the thoughts of those wishful thinkers who believed that the fever of revolution among the people had died down a decade after the victory of the Islamic Revolution. This presence was able to destroy the thoughts of these wishful thinkers, who believed that 8 years of imposed war, economic pressure, the psychological war of the cities, and possible differences of political tastes inside the country had weakened the people's morale.

These wishful thinkers saw for themselves that, despite the most difficult of conditions caused by the bombings and missile attacks, which were taking place only 2 hours before the elections, the people went to the polling stations. They saw how the Muslim Iranian nation stood behind its imam and resisted in its struggle to achieve its objectives. They saw how the people risked their most valuable divine gift—their lives.

The third Majlis session is the result of this resistance. With more than 17 million votes, this patient nation gave a crushing answer to the chain of plots by the East and West. The third Majlis session is a tall tree which has sprung up in Islamic Iran, despite the rain of bombs and missiles, and which will continue to stand until arrogance is brought to its knees in front of it. World arrogance should know that our people are like a steel sword supported by the strength of Islam and of the imam. Each blow that is inflicted on them will only make the steel stronger and sharper.

The third Majlis session, with all its special aspects, will be the sharp edge of this sword. The world will see the answer the United States and Iraq will receive for their mischief, and the answer to the international forums for their unjust and dastardly positions on the oppressed Iranian nation, answers thqt will further tighten the people's ranks and solidarity and harmony within the Majlis, the government, and the country's other sectors. The officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue in a more serious and a more determined way to accelerate the introduction of laws in the various fields of administration and in the fulfillment of the charter of the revolution, under the aegis of pure Mohammedan Islam [chants by the audience] and by rejecting the supporters of an American-style Islam.

Part II. The preparations for the elections:

Parallel with what I have said on the special conditions that prevailed before the elections, it is necessary to point out that the Ministry of Interior—as part of the serving government—considered it its duty not to allow, despite all these plots and fears, anything to dissuade it from carrying out its legal duty and fulfilling the desire of the lofty leadership on holding the elections on time. It was also its duey to take all the necessary steps for the brave and Muslim nation to elect its representatives under healthy and calm conditions.

In relation to this, and in addition to implementing the law on elections and the relevant regulations in a careful and all-encompassing manner, it also implemented the dear imam's statements on granting the people freedom during the elections and on refraining from those things that could lead to the imposition of certain candidates on the people. The ministry also implemented his holiness' statements on the type of campaign to be carried out; on supporting the candidates; and on various other aspects of the elections which he referred to previously. These formed the basis of the Interior Ministry's legal activities in preparing the conditions for the elections for the third Majlis session and for the mid-term elections of the Council of Experts.

The following steps were taken:

1. The convocation of meetings and seminars to teach the law and the regulations of the elections. [passage omitted]

2. The establishment of a system of inspection. The Interior Ministry, in carrying out its legal duty to ensure good relations and on the basis of the law, gave serious attention to overseeing the elections and setting up well-planned, vast, and systematic organizations for this purpose. The activities related to overseeing the third Majlis session elections were not merely limited to the day of the election but, actually, started a few months earlier. Extensive activities were carried out to ensure healthy and free elections and to prevent violations. [passage omitted]

3. A headquarters entrusted with providing security during the elections was established. Taking the preliminary measures to ensure complete security at the polling stations, as well as creating favorable conditions for legal campaigns and other activities, entailed a vast effort. It was carried out with the cooperation of all security and military forces, specifically from among the ranks of the Islamic Revolution Committees, the Mobilization of the Oppressed, the Police Department and the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The deployment of more than 100,000 people to ensure security in the first phase of the elections, and the deployment of more than one-third of these people for the second phase, was the result of the efforts and programs of the State Security Council and the security councils of the provinces and of the towns, which led to the formation of the security headquarters of the elections in all the constituencies as well as of the headquarters set up at the Interior Ministry. The result of this was that the elections were not stopped in even one constituency and that exceptional calm and order ruled at all of the polling stations throughout the country. This is considered to be one of the special aspects of the elections for this Majlis session.

The security at the polling stations and the fact that there was not even one act against security on election day are noteworthy because they prove that a healthy atmosphere prevailed at the polling stations in the days before the elections. The existence of the type of unhealthy campaign before the elections could have had an impact on election day and at the polling station, and lead to bitter incidents as before. [passage omitted]

4. Equipping the elections with a quick telecommunications system. Among the Interior Ministry's other activities was the creation of more communication facilities for the benefit of the officials in charge of the elections. [passage omitted]

5. The publication of the election bulletin. In order to inform the officials in charge of the elections in a timely and quick manner, a daily and special bulletin containing the latest reports and information on the polling stations, as well as on political and administrative developments in the elections, was published.

This bulletin played a noteworthy role in creating the necessary coordination among the administrative officials of the elections, in preventing the dissemination of false reports and rumors harmful to the health of the elections, as well as in receiving the views and directives of the officials of the Islamic Republic for holding the elections in a better way.

6. Using computers in the elections. In view of the growing population, the great number of polling stations, and the increasing number of deputies—especially in future sessions—the Interior Ministry used computers in various phases of the elections, particularly for purposes of registering existing information, using past experiences, preventing repetition and, ultimately, using these computers to count votes nationwide. In this session, in view of the existing [communications] limitations, thank God, the preliminary steps were taken to transfer the extensive information on the elections for the third Majlis session.

7. The creation of variety in the composition of the popular forces participating in the elections. In order to create a variety in the composition of the popular forces participating in the elections and to transfer experiences concerning the elections to the various strata of people, greater use was made in these elections of the young Hezbollahi forces, academicians, and scholars. [passage omitted]

Part III. The outcome of the elections:

[Passage omitted] Although all of the polling stations should be praised for the people's zealous welcome for the elections, of particular note is the active participation of people in areas who faced problems in the past sessions because of the infiltration of counterrevolutionaries and because of the obstacles that were created. According to statistics on hand, the extent of the people's participation in the polling stations in Kordestan and Sistan va Baluchestan Provinces increased 40 to 50 percent in comparison with the past sessions. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, I consider it my duty to thank all those who, in one way or another, participated in the spectacular elections for the third Majlis session and for the mid-term elections for the Council of Experts, and who registered this spectacular epic and made this honorable Majlis possible. [passage omitted]

Is is my duty to report to the respectable Majlis about the grandeur and legitimacy which we all witnessed. Naturally, this duty will be felt by others, too. It is hoped that they will, God willing, do their best to carry out their duty because if, God forbid, when they speak about the elections and this epical presence, about the alertness of the people, and about the healthy and calm conditions under which the elections were held, incorrect things are said and a weak defense presented, the enemies will exploit this and the hearts of the people who expect the votes that they have cast to be respected will be dampened.

In conclusion, as a member of the serving cabinet, I would like to thank all the respectable deputies of the second Majlis session who exerted all-encompassing efforts and to pray for success and health, particularly for those brothers who are blessed to serve Islam and the Muslims in positions other than the Majlis. [passage omitted]

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Address

LD3105142888 Tehran IRNA in English 1035 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here today that the war continues to top all other issues for the Islamic Government. He expressed hope that the third Majlis would help the country to attain the goals of the Islamic Revolution.

Speaking at an open session of the third Majlis, he said Iran will continue "its holy defence" until it has attained its denied rights. He noted the Islamic government is committed to the same cause for which so many Muslim combatants have shed their blood.

A principal duty, he said, of the third Majlis is to ensure social equality in the country. He expressed confidence that the Iranian people will continue their support for their parliament.

The Iranian Majlis speaker also thanked the deputies for their well-disciplined participation in the sittings of the Majlis over the previous term and also hailed the Council of Guardians and the Interior Ministry for ensuring healthy elections for the third Majlis.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani was elected temporary speaker of the third Majlis Monday which function he will retain until the Iranian parliament has screened and approved credentials of at least two-thirds of the Majlis deputies. His reinstatement beyond that will be pending the votes of the deputies.

Temporary Secretaries Elected

LD3005005788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Following this afternoon's session, the Majlis announced the results of the election of temporary secretaries. The following were elected as temporary Majlis attendants from a total of 235 votes cast: Morteza Kasira'i with 150 votes, Gholam Reza Heydari with 139 votes, and Musavi Lari with 131 votes.

The following were elected temporary Majlis secretaries from a total of 226 votes cast: Assadollah Bayan with 169 votes, Mohammad 'Ali Sobhanollahi with 166 votes, Ahmad 'Azizi with 150 votes, (Montajab-Nia) with 139 votes, Morteza A'eri with 138 votes, and Duzduzani with 133 votes.

Deputies' Credentials Approved

LD3105214088 Tehran IRNA in English 1606 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—Credentials of 114 deputies were approved in today's Majlis (parliament) session chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Credentials of seven others were passed to the investigation committee.

The deputies whose credentials faced objection are 'Ali Kamyar from Orumiyeh, Ne'matollah Asadi from Eslamabad-e Gharb, Mohammad-Taqi Saberi-Ansari from Borujerd, Fakhroddin Rezazehi from Saravan, Mohammad 'Ali Shari' from Qom, Hoseyn 'Ali Zia'i and Asadollah Tabe' from Miandoab.

Khamene'i Addresses Air Defense Units

LD3105142388 Tehran IRNA in English 1251 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—Commanders of the missile defence sites and personnel of the anti-aircraft units of the air force of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) met with President 'Ali Khamene'i here Tuesday.

In the meeting, commander in chief of the anti-aircraft units of the IRGC air force presented Khamene'i with a report on the performance of these units.

The president, pointing to the Iraqi-imposed war told the visitors that because Iran is facing an enemy which has imposed a war on it without any logic and with full backing of global arrogance, it (Iran) has the right to continue its defence until the aggressor is punished and until schemes of the global arrogance are foiled.

Khamene'i who also chairs the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) made it clear that "we are defending the prestige of the Islamic Republic against the aggressor regime of Iraq."

The SDC head also described the fight of the Islamic Republic against global arrogance as a defensive war, adding that its real nature is based on defending humane values, national independence and the achievements of the Islamic Revolution.

Khamene'i Insists on 'Decisive Victory' in War

LD3105161088 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i, while referring to the attempts of the global arrogance to eradicate the Islamic Revolution which has threatened its interests, said that the U.S. and its allies have now found it difficult to eliminate Islam.

Speaking to a group of visiting people from all walks of life here Tuesday, the president said the global arrogance can neither get along with the Islamic Revolution not can understand it in the full sense of the word and thus it is trying to destroy the revolution.

Khamene'i, who doubles as the chairman of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC), said that both Iranian officials and nation are determined to cut the hands of colonialists, something which is very painful for colonialist and plunderers.

On the war imposed on Iran by the global arrogance with a view to uprooting the Islamic Revolution, the SDC head said the revolution's response is revolutionary resistance and full preparedness of the people.

An end to the Iraqi-imposed war must not be short of a decisive victory of Iran's Muslim combatants, the president said.

During the meeting, President Khamene'i received millions of rials in cash and dozens of precious jewelry and gold ornaments donated by the people for the war efforts. The donated cash included a sum of money gained from the sale of a martyr's bicycle according to his will.

Friday Imams on Khomeyni's Election Guidance

NC3105061188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 31 May 8

[Text] The Central Secretariat of all the country's Friday imams sent a letter to the imam of the nation informing him about the exact implementation of the guidance which his eminence gave to the Central Secretariat of the Friday imams. On the basis of this guidance, the use of the sacred Friday prayers tribune [preceding word in English] for elections and for lobbying for candidates during the third round of the Islamic Majlis elections is prohibited. The guidance also calls for maintaining absolute neutrality.

Velayati Leaves for UN Disarmament Talks

LD2905131288 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left here for New York Saturday night for U.N. disarmament talks June 1-July 1.

Before departure, Dr. Velayati said that the meet will discuss superpower agreements on mid-range nuclear arms and a ban on deployment of chemical weapons.

At the meetings in the UN, he said, the Iranian delegation will deal on Iraq's deployment of chemical weapons and will present its arguments in condemnation of the Security Council's stand in that respect.

Dr. Velayati said that Iran has always reiterated that as a first step for a peaceful solution of the Iraq-Iran conflict the Iraqi Government should be identified and punished as an aggressor party in the war, and that any peace formula without such provision as its first step would hardly be implementable.

During the meet, Dr. Velayati will present Iran's views on international and regional security and on repeated violations of international laws and regulations by Iraq.

Forty-three countries are to participate at the international disarmament conference at the U.N.

Meets Kurdish Leader

NC3105065788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, during his meeting with Foreign Minister Velayati in New York last night Mr Jalal Talebani, who is heading an Iraqi Kurdish delegation opposed to Saddam's regime, reported on his tour of some European countries during which he detailed Saddam's crimes in bombing the city of Halabjah and massacring the Kurdish people.

He also outlined the various steps which Iraqi Kurds residing in European countries are taking to expose and condemn the chemical attacks against the Iraqi Kurdish people, attacks which have left tens of thousands homeless.

During this meeting, Mr Velayati stressed the need for the opponents of Saddam's regime to undertake a concerted and multifaceted struggle against that regime.

It should be noted that Mr Velayati is in New York to participate in the special disarmament session, which will open at the UN Headquarters in New York this afternoon with the extensive participation of representatives from various countries.

Velayati Greets Sudanese Foreign Minister

LD3105121488 Tehran IRNA in English 1057 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on Tuesday cabled his felicitations to Sudanese Foreign Minister Husayn Abu Salih on his appointment as Sudan's foreign minister.

In his message Velayati expressed hope for promotion of Tehran-Khartoum relations in political, economic, and cultural areas. He also expressed hope that the peoples of Iran and Sudan would cooperate for realizing the "lofty goals of islam."

Larijani Reiterates View on U.S. Gulf Presence

LD2905133388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 29 May 88

[Remarks by Deputy Foreign Minister Larijani on the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf, from the "Holy Defense" program; date, place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] As for the U.S. threats in the Persian Gulf region, I must give further details. In principle, security in a geopolitical region has specific meanings. The United States says that safeguarding such a region requires a gendarme, just as security in a city needs a gendarme who will stop burglars with force. The United States further states that the regional gendarme is the United States itself, hence its military presence.

We say that this sort of security benefits only the burglars themselves. This kind of security in the region allows them to get oil at low prices and sell their own goods in return. This provides security for the burglars.

Other world powers have their own theory on security and call it the balance of power theory. This means that in a geopolitical region security is reached when a balance is struck between poles of power. In other words, they say the Persian Gulf must be divided among various poles.

This is a ridiculous approach to security. We have our own specific doctrine for security in this arena. We say that security in the Persian Gulf should safeguard the interests of the region's people. This is a regional issue. The greater the presence by the United States, Great Britain, and all other powers, the further removed this region will be from security.

The prerequisite for establishing security in the region is for foreign forces to depart. Security in the region will be maintained by us alone and the Islamic Republic, as the most powerful entity in the region, as the most powerful factor in economic, military, and political terms, must be present in any security gathering. Security will be never be established without the Islamic Republic.

Therefore, we are holding dialogues with the regional states. Our policy is to say to the gentlemen that if security is to be established in the region then the first condition is for foreign forces to leave. This is the way resolutely pursued by the Islamic Republic. The future will prove the success of such views which are in the interest of Islam and Muslims of the region. [passage omitted]

Larijani Meets Italian Foreign Ministry Official

LD3105203988 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—Italian Foreign Ministry's Director-General Bruno Bottai in a stop-over here on his way to Kabul met and talked with Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani Monday.

The two discussed mutual relations, the latest developments in the Iraqi-imposed war, major viewpoints on the UN Security Council's Resolution 598, regional and Persian Gulf issues, and the Afghan problem.

Stressing the Islamic Republic's stands on the Iraqi imposed war, Larijani denounced the silence of international bodies vis-a-vis the wide use of chemicals by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

"Iran insists on the execution of justice and will not allow the aggressor to be awarded for its crimes," he concluded.

UN Envoy in Geneva on Position on Afghanistan

LD2805202688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] According to the report of the Central News Unit, Diego Cordovez, UN under secretary and special representative of the UN secretary general on the Afghan problem has stated: The Islamic Republic of Iran, because of its importance in the region and its affinity with and cultural and spiritual influence on the people of Afghanistan, can play an important role in the present developments aimed at restoring peace in Afghanistan.

Stating the above points in a meeting with the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the UN European Office, Cordovez added that he would continue his contacts and exchanges of views in this regard with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During this meeting the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the UN European office in Geneva informed Cordovez that due to the absence of the Afghan revolutionaries at the Geneva talks and their formal opposition to these agreements, the Islamic Republic of Iran could not take a positive position on those agreements.

However, the departure of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan is welcomed by the Islamic Republic of Iran. If that measure is coupled with suitable changes in Kabul, one can hope that peace and stability will be restored in Afghanistan.

The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran added: To achieve this objective, the Afghan revolutionaries must play a leading role in the future government of their country, because Afghanistan is an Islamic country and it is only right that the demand of the revolutionaries on the establishment of an Islamic and nonaligned government in that country be realized.

Besharati Receives UN Official for Refugees

LD3105121888 Tehran IRNA in English 1050 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—Sadruddin Aga Khan in charge of the United Nations Program to coordinate humanitarian and economic aid to refugees arrived here at the head of a UN team Monday evening for a brief stop-over and met with Acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati.

Aga Khan expressed appreciation of the United Nations to the Islamic Republic of Iran for its aids to the Afghan refugees.

Besharati briefed Aga Khan on Iran's stance towards the Afghanistan issue and aid to Afghan refugees and on the absence of Afghan people's representatives in negotiations for finding a political solution to the crisis in Afghanistan.

Besharati said that if Afghan refugees were to return to their homeland on their own free will first of all security must be established in that country and desirable conditions and popular sovereignty must prevail.

The delegation left Tehran for Geneva Monday night.

Dam Construction Project Planned With USSR

LD3005162988 Tehran IRNA in English 1614 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Tabriz, East Azarbayjan Prov., May 30, IRNA—A plan for construction of a joint dam on Aras River by Iran and the Soviet Union is to be discussed and finalized at the forthcoming joint economic commission meet, Taqi Khamushi in charge of the Energy Ministry said here today.

Khamushi currently here to inspect projects underway by his ministry, said the dam, after completion, is to supply irrigation water and electricity to a vast part of the northern Azarbayjan Province.

He also inaugurated a new dam on Nur Lake of Ardabil, northeast of here today, which was built by provincial energy department with a credit of 170 million rials (dlrs. over 2.5 million). The dam is supplying irrigation water for more than 3,000 hectares of farmlands in the region.

Funds Allocated for Essential Purchases

LD2905192988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] An interview with Deputy Prime Minister for Administrative Affairs concerning the allocation of over $3 billion in foreign reserves to purchase essential goods and foodstuffs is the subject of our next news report:

Over $3 billion has been allocated by the government for the purchase of essential goods for this year [year ending 20 March 1989]. Some $2 billion of this is for wheat, rice, vegetable oil, sugar, tea, meat, and goods needed by the agricultural sector, as well as bonuses for wheat farmers. Some $572 million is allocated for raw materials and more than 43 sensitive and important items, while $84 million has been allocated for raw materials for production units and traditional workshops such as (?building material) machinery and food, as well as $180 million for tires and other spares needed for road transportation. Another $150 million goes for goods and foodstuffs for government employees.

Mr Mirzadeh, deputy prime minister for administrative affairs and head of the Economic Mobilization Headquarters, announced these moves in an interview today and described the government's methods for controlling inflation, price rises, protection of oppressed sections of society, and the supply of essential goods and foodstuffs across the country. He stressed that the new plan—whose methods of implementation will be conveyed to provincial capitals soon—as approved by the heads of three government branches last night will effectively control inflation both at the retail and wholesale levels by increasing the number of goods subject to the plan.

He added: During the current year, in addition to the distribution of foodstuffs to retired government employees and armed forces personnel, as well as the families of martyrs and war refugees, there will be two rounds of distributing foodstuffs to government employees during September and February—rounds Nos 4 and 5. As of 3 May the distribution of coupons for essential goods for round No 8 for villagers and tribes, and as of late June the distribution of the same coupons for city dwellers will begin across the country. These include coupons for essential goods for families of the warriors of Islam, teachers on an hourly salary, government and armed forces retired personnel, and all workers subject to the social security plan.

He stated: Last year the growth of the index price for goods under the plan was limited to 12.5 percent, while such goods made up around 41.7 percent of the costs to a family. However, such success is only important when you note that the price index for goods not under the plan during the year increased as much as 215 times over the previous year's figures. Therefore, in order to further expand the policy and bring more goods under the plan, it has been decided that overcharging, in addition to hoarding, should come under the government punishment plans.

Therefore, all major production and import units as well as wholesalers, distribution companies, and agents responsible for the distribution of the goods under the scheme, are required to issue receipts for goods and to display prices on all goods coming subject to the plan, in order to combat high prices and hoarding. People will act as the main inspectors in the implementation of the plan.

He added: All those selling goods subject to the plan having prices established by the organization in order to protect producers and consumers must take steps to issue bills that should include the complete details of sale, the price of goods, the total price, and the name and signature of the seller.

3 Opposition 'Terrorists' Executed 25 May

LD2705212788 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA—The Islamic Revolution Tribunal voted for death sentence of three terrorists affiliated to the outlawed grouplets. They were executed in Evin Prison Wednesday afternoon.

The terrorists were Anushirvan Lutfi, member of the Central Committee of the so-called Feda'i-ye Khalq (majority wing), Hajat Mohammad Pur, chairman of the Executive Committe of the outlawed Union of Iranian Communists grouplet and Hojattollah Ma'budi, an activist in the terrorist Monafeqin-e Khalq Organization (MKO).

Their major charges were announced as attempting to overthrow the Islamic Republic, participation in armed clashes with military and disciplinary forces, their active role in bloody clashes in Gonbad-e Qabus and Kordistan, participation in Amol's Forests [placename as received] clashes in 1982 in which a group of innocent civilians were martyred and wounded, setting afire a bank and a bookshop in a densely populated area, and armed participation in Hamadan clashes in June 1982.

Tanker Attacks Increase With U.S. Presence

LD2805215888 Tehran IRNA in English 1738 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] London, May 28, IRNA—Shipping attacks in the Persian Gulf continue at more than one every two days since the U.S. sent its armada to ostensibly uphold what it termed as freedom of navigation.

According to Lloyd's Shipping of London, 76 vessels have been recorded hit in the first 148 days of 1988 compared with less than one ship every three days coming under attack before the Americans started their convoy operations in the Persian Gulf on July 23 1987.

Last week marked the 7th anniversary of Iraq's launching its so-called "tanker war," when its planes hit and sank the Panamanian motor-boat carrier "Louise-1" on May 21, 1981 and since then at least 529 attacks have been recorded mostly by Iraq.

Lloyd's shipping records show that all 5 attacks in 1981 were carried out by the Iraqi regime as were the 22 in 1982 and 16 in the following year. The earliest retaliations attributed to Iran were not recorded until 1984, three years after Baghdad started its attacks on neutral shipping in the water way.

As 1988 is heading for another record year for attacks and estimated damage to date thought to exceed dlrs 400 million, British seamen are furious about the lack of appropriate action from world governments to stop what they all recognise as "unlawful attacks."

In particular seafarers saw the U.S.-led build-up as being more about taking Iraq's side in its war against Iran than anything to do with the freedom of navigation and last year had prophetically warned that it would only exacerbate the situation.

Aviation Commander Denies Helicopter Downed

LD3105064788 Tehran IRAN English 0637 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—A ranking commander of the Iranian aviation service refuted Iraqi Government's allegation Monday that a second helicopter of Iran had been downed on the same day. He asserted that all Iranian helicopters had safely returned to bases after carrying out their mission.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Iraqi Aircraft Forced to Flee

LD3005104888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Aircraft of the Iraqi aggressive regime this morning violated the airspace of Ahvaz, (Bakhtaran), and (Eslamabad-e Gharb). According to an IRNA report, the intruding Iraqi aircraft were forced to flee by the defense tactics of the brave personnel of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Zionist enemy aircraft broke the sound barrier at high altitude while fleeing the airspace of (Eslamabad-e Gharb) and (Bakhtaran).

Invading Iraqi Planes Repelled

LD3105110088 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—Iranian anti-aircraft guns repelled Iraqi warplanes which violated the airspace of Dezful, Eslamabad-e Gharb and Khorramabad this morning. The intruding planes broke the sound barrier over these cities while fleeing.

Communique No 3,219

LD3105172788 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA—A total of 60 ships were reconnoitered by Iranian jets during their patrol operations over the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman Monday, the 3219th Joint Staff Communique reported here today.

It said the Iranian naval forces continued their routine patrol mission in the coastal and international waters.

Iranian combatants in the war fronts brought Iraqi defence lines, supply routes, motorized columns and engineering activities under artillery fire throughout the battlefield destroying several group bunkers and observation posts, inflicting some casualties on the enemey troops.

Iraqi tank fire was silenced in Panjwin, Qasr-e Shirin and Nahr 'Anbar operational theaters by the Muslim forces, who also disrupted enemy patrol activities and inflicted some casualties and losses on them.

Gendarmerie forces of the Islamic Republic took Iraqi infantry and motorized units under artillery fire in parts of the southern and western fronts, inflicting some casualties and losses on the Ba'thist troops, the communique concluded.

Iraqi POW's on Toxic Gas Use

LD3105163388 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., May 31, IRNA—Seven ranking Iraqi commanders captured in the course of "Val-Fajr-10" operations last March explained the Baghdad regime's crimes against Iraqi Kurdish Muslims, in an interview here today.

Major General 'Ali Husayn Ovayd al-Algavi, commander of the Infantry Division 43 of Iraq's First Corps said that the town of Halabjah liberated by the Iranian forces is an important axis which joins strategic point of Al-Sulaymaniyah, Darband-i Khan, Qarah Dagh and Sayyid Sadiq together.

He said since the town served as a support center for the First and Fifth Corps, the Iraqi regime had employed its strongest troops under the command of the First Corps.

"But wide-scale storm of the Iranian forces from highest peaks of mountains east of Halabjah besieged vast part of infantry and mechanized units of the First Corps," he added.

Halabjah, Al-Algavi said, was also economically important due to its closeness to Darband-i Khan dam, that's why the Ba'thist regime resorted to the most barbaric crimes (chemical attack on Halabjah) to retake the town, he said.

The Iraqi regime pursued several goals by dropping chemical bombs on the town including massacre of the Kurdish people who had been in war with it for a long time, engaging the Iranian combatants in evacuating operations of the martyrs and wounded of the town and finally covering up the great defeat its First Corps sustained, said the major general.

Al-Algavi regretted that the United Nations, Security Council and those organisations claiming to be defenders of human rights did not react to this crime and therefore encourage the Ba'thist regime to continue its barbarity.

He said since 1968, when the Iraqi regime seized power in Iraq, Baghdad rulers have suppressed the Kurdish people in norther part of the country. "I have witnessed bombardment of the Kurdish villages by the Iraqi regime, but I could never imagine such crimes as in Halabjah."

Before being captured by the Iranian forces, Al-Algavi said, I could not understand why Iran is so insisting on punishment of Saddam Husayn, but since the Halabjah chemical inferno I realized that continuation of Saddam's government will be dangerous for both nations of Iraq and Iran.

Referring to humanitarian treatment of the Iranian combatants, he said when he was captured in the region an Iranian combatant gave his anti-chemical gear and thus "saved me from a certain death".

Colonel Taha 'Abd al-Rahman Mustafa, commander of the Second Battalion of Commando Brigade 68 in Halabjah region was another POW who said Halabjah holocaust was an "unprecedented and scarce crime" in the world, and that all artists and poets should become mobilized to picture this crime for the world.

Commander of the First Commando Battalion of Division 28 said Saddam spared no crimes against the Kurdish people in Iraq. He urged the Muslim forces to employ all their might to destroy the Baghdad regime.

Lieutenant Colonel Salman Ganbus Najm, commander of the Artillery Battalion 72 referred to the blitz operations of the Muslim forces and said artillery units of the Division 43 stationed at least 20 kms. from Halabjah was captured by the Iranian forces in the early hours of the operations. "This is great in the classic wars," he admitted.

Another lieutenant colonel, 'Abbas Vanas Abud, commander of the Second Battalion of the First Commando Brigade explained condition of the Iraqi Army and said this army relies on chemical weapons in both offensive and defensive operations. Whenever the Iraqi Army is defeated, it resorts to chemical weapons, and "our defeat in Halabjah was signal".

Flight Officer First Lieutenant Ala Hamid al-Abduli, whose Sukhoy-22 was shot down in Halabjah region said when the Iraqi troops were routed in the region "we were assigned to drop chemical bombs on the region". Airfield commanders assured the pilots that the town is totally deserted and chemical bombardment on it is only aimed at preventing the Iranian forces from entering Halabjah, he added.

Shocked by recalling the massacre of Halabjah residents, Al-Abduli said after he was captured the Muslim forces took him to the town where he witnessed "the incredible crime".

He warned his colleagues in the Iraqi Air Force that the Iraqi regime is not the sole responsible for such crimes, but that they will also be responsible against both Iraqi and Iranian nations. [sentence as received]

Pakistan

Further Reportage on Dissolution of Government

Islamic Law Committee Set Up

BK3105160688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The president has set up a committee for earliest enforcement of shari'ah [Koranic law] in the country. It will be headed by the chairman of the Council of Islamic Ideology, Dr A.W.J. Halipota. Other members of the committee are the president of the International Islamic University in Islamabad, Dr Hussain Hamid Hassan; the director general of Institute of Islamic Research, Mr Zafar Ishaq Ansari; and Dr Abdul Malik Irfani of the Council of Islamic Ideology.

The committee is empowered to include other members. The secretary in the Ministry of Justice and the attorney general will assist the committee regarding the legal aspects in the enforcement of shari'ah.

Earlier, addressing a special meeting in Islamabad the president said the only aim of his life and his biggest desire is to see the implementation of shari'ah. The meeting was called to review measures for the implementation of the Islamic order in the country.

President To Head Government

BK3105161488 Hong Kong AFP in English 1617 GMT 31 May 88

[Excerpts] Islamabad, May 31 (AFP)—President Mohammad Ziaul Haq told diplomats here Tuesday that he would head a caretaker government to replace the one he dismissed Sunday and h would name the new team in one or two days. [passage omitted]

He told the ambassadors he would head the caretaker government to be set up in "one or two days."

Gen. Ziaul Haq said everything would be done according to the Constitution, which provides for fresh elections within 90 days of the dissolution of parliament. [passage omitted]

President Meets PRC Envoy

BK0106081688 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] The Chinese ambassador, Mr Tian Ding, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Islamabad today and discussed with him matters of bilateral interest. The president informed him that due to developments at home he could not visit China and would take the earliest opportunity to visit our great friendly neighbor.

President Briefs Foreign Envoys

BK3105101588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq briefed heads of foreign missions at the Presidency in Islamabad today about the latest situation in the country. The president emphasized that Pakistan will continue to adhere to its present foreign policy and work for the promotion of friendly and cordial relations with all countries of the world.

NWFP Caretaker Government

BK3105154288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Senator Retired Lieutenant General Fazle Haq took the oath of office as the caretaker chief minister of NWFP in Peshawar this evening. Provincial Governor Fida Mohammad Khan administered the oath of office. The government also administered the oath of office to the 3-member caretaker cabinet which included Maulana Abdul Baki, Raja Amanullah Khan, and retired Colonel Nurbad Shah. Senators, the Peshawar high court chief justice, judges, high officials, and prominent citizens attended the oath taking ceremony.

Army 'Untouched' by Crisis

BK3105110988 Hong Kong AFP in English 1058 GMT 31 May 88

[By Gilles Bertin]

[Text] Islamabad, May 31 (AFP)—Pakistan's Army has emerged stronger after the unexpected dissolution of the government by President Mohammed Ziaul Haq, diplomats here said Tuesday.

General Ziaul Haq, who in addition to being head of state commands the country's Armed Forces, dissolved the government Sunday accusing it of "corruption and incompetence."

Gen. Ziaul Haq repeatedly accused the "civilian government" which he himself named three years ago of favouring a policy of "bribes," of encouraging corruption and of "leading the country to bankruptcy."

But diplomats here noted that the military, Gen. Ziaul Haq's power base, had been spared from his scathing criticisms and that the Army appeared to have actually gained in strength from the political crisis.

They said the dissolution of the government followed disagreements between Gen. Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo, who had slowly distanced himself from the president and gained some acceptance by the opposition.

Opposition parties have repeatedly called for the resignation of Gen. Ziaul Haq, who seized power in a military coup on July 5, 1977 and ruled by martial law until 1985.

"Junejo ... thought he could isolate the president and flirt with the opposition," one diplomat said. "But he overestimated his power. You can't touch the military. The army has emerged stronger from this crisis," the diplomat said.

Informed sources said the government had wanted to make accusations against "military leaders" close to the president following an inquiry into a fire at the Ojiri army munitions depot in Rawalpindi on April 10. The explosion left 123 dead and thousands missing, according to the official casualty toll. The Army was accused of "incompetence" and certain groups demanded Gen. Ziaul Haq's immediate resignation.

The inquiry has not been released owing to "differences" among the members, but its results should be known in 10 days, the sources said.

Following attacks by the opposition against the military after the explosion some officers made their concerns about the Army's declining prestige known to Gen. Ziaul Haq, informed sources said.

Experts are divided about the possible outcome of elections to be held within three months under the Constitution. Some believe the president cannot go back on the promise of elections after dissolving the National Assembly and the government Sunday. Others point out that Gen. Ziaul Haq had announced elections "within 90 days" of his 1977 coup and that the nation in fact had to wait until 1985.

The opposition, mainly the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), has demanded fresh elections for years.

PPP leader Benazir Bhutto said Tuesday in Karachi that the president had not set a date for elections in his address to the nation Monday and that the eight years of martial law were at the root of problems in Pakistan.

Observers noted that Gen. Ziaul Haq, by invoking threats to the "law, order, security and integrity" of the nation, had reserved the right to revert to emergency measures if necessary.

The president is to name an intermediary government "in a few days" probably made up of high-ranking officers and partisans of the Muslim League, the party led by the former prime minister.

Informed sources said the post of prime minister could be abolished and that the government could come under the direct leadership of Gen. Ziaul Haq himself.

Opposition Reaction Noted

BK3105105788 Hong Kong AFP in English 1048 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Karachi, May 31 (AFP)—Pakistani opposition leaders Tuesday criticised President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's failure to name a date for fresh elections after dissolving Parliament and dismissing the government Sunday.

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Benazir Bhutto said "there was nothing new" in President Ziaul Haq's television broadcast Monday in which he accused the government of corruption and incompetence.

She noted that although the president had on Sunday promised to hold fresh elections on a party basis within three months as laid down in the Constitution, there was no mention of a date in Monday's broadcast.

Ms. Bhutto had initially welcomed the dissolution of Parliament, but said Tuesday that the president had unjustifiably blamed the civilian government of Premier Mohammed Khan Junejo for ethnic strife in Karachi, corruption in government and other social evils.

She said that a previous eight years of martial law under General Ziaul Haq between 1977 and 1985 had given rise to such evils, but now the general had sought to make a scape-goat of his own prime minister, trying to shift his own responsibility onto the government which he had himself created in 1985.

What the president said about the Junejo government applied in greater measure to himself, Ms. Bhutto said. The real reason for the dismissal of the government remained a mystery, she added.

Other opposition leaders have also expressed doubts about whether free and fair elections will be held. They include Maraj Mohammed Khan who heads a nine-party alliance the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), Pakistan Liberal Party President Lal Khan Bhatti, Altaf Husain of the Muhajir Quami Movement, Rahimul Haq of the right-wing Tehrik-e Istiqlal Party and Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, president of the Pakistan National Party.

Mr. Khan recalled that Gen. Ziaul Haq had made a similar promise of holding fresh elections "within 90 days" when he overthrew a civilian government in July 1977, buo it took the president nine years to fulfil his pledge.

Mr. Bhatti said that the president's broadcast was "full of hypocrisy," adding that the president should have resigned instead of blaming his prime minister for the alleged rot in the society.

PPP sources said they feared that even if elections were held, the PPP, the country's largest opposition party, would not be allowed to take part.

Chief Election Commissioner S.A. Nusrat has said that only registered political parties could take part, but the PPP had not registered in protest at what it said was undue restrictions imposed by the martial law regime.

PPP sources said the party wanted to take part in the elections, provided it was given a fair chance to participate.

Party leaders have contacted Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of former Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed during the martial law regime, to return from self-exile in Paris, and lead the party's election campaign.

Begum Bhutto had said after her daughter Ms. Bhutto's marriage in October that she was retiring from active politics. But sources said that Begum Bhutto would have to lead the PPP electoral campaign because her daughter was expecting a baby in December.

New Attorney General Named

BK3005151488 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] The president has appointed Aziz Munshi as attorney general of Pakistan. His appointment will be effective from the date he will take over the charge of his post.

Investigation of Former Assembly Members Ordered

BK3105153288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has ordered an investigation into the property acquired by members of the now dissolved National Assembly and their relatives during the term of assembly. The step has been taken in accordance with the pledge given by the president in his address to the nation last night. During the address, the president threw light on large-scale irregularities found in the society. An investigation will also be carried out as to how the National Assembly members used the funds given to them from the national treasure for development works.

The investigations will start within 7 days. Machinery has been set up to collect preliminary information and data.

PRC President Lauds Government's Afghan Position

BK2805154588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Chinese President Yang Shangkun has said that the Pakistani people have a special place in the hearts of the government and people of China. He stated this in a special message to the Pakistani people on the occasion of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's visit to China beginning 30 May. At a meeting with Pakistan Ambassador Akram Zaki in Beijing today, the Chinese president said he is eagerly looking forward to meeting the Pakistani president, a great statesman and an old friend of China.

In a television interview, Yang Shangkun said the exchange of visits by leaders of the two countries will further strengthen Sino-Pakistan friendship. He said Pakistan has played an admirable role in providing humanitarian assistance to millions of Afghan refugees. Pakistan has pursued a bold and admirable policy on Afghanistan. China and Pakistan will continue to work toward the goal of achieving justice for the developing countries of the Third World, he added.

Noorani Says Soviet Union Wants Better Ties

BK2705133488 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 21 May 88 pp 1, 8

[Text] Karachi, May 20: Pakistan and the Soviet Union have decided in principle to set up a joint ministerial commission "details of which will be worked out through diplomatic channels", Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Zain Noorani said here Thursday.

Recording a statement on return from a three day goodwill mission to the Soviet Union, at the Karachi Airport, he told newsmen that "it is my considered opinion that the Soviet Union seeks to improve its relations with Pakistan".

Mr. Noorani, who led a five member goodwill delegation from Pakistan, at the instructions of the Prime Minister, Mohammad Khan Junejo, said that while in Moscow, the delegation had "very fruitful discussions with the Soviet leaders. During my talks with the Soviet Foreign Minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, it was decided in principle, that a joint ministerial commission will be constituted, details of which will be worked out through diplomatic channels. Similarly, Mr Shevardnadze has very kindly accepted my invitation to visit Pakistan".

He said the dates for visit of the Soviet Foreign Minister to Pakistan would be settled after the US-USSR summit and third special session of the United Nations on disarmament. The delegation concluded its visit in connection with celebration of the 40th anniversary of the start of diplomatic relations between both the countries.

He said that the Soviet Union has shown its keen interest in some of the development projects, as envisaged in the seventh five year plan, and the Pakistan delegation pointed out as to what were our priorities. "We hope progress will be achieved in this connection", he maintained.

"The major concern today in the minds of the Soviet leadership, in this regard, was development of smooth and conducive relations between the two countries. Again and again, they kept asking whether Pakistan would abide by the obligations it had taken upon itself as a result of the Geneva accord", Zain Noorani said.

He disclosed that he explained to the Soviet Union the viewpoint of Pakistan that the Geneva accord must be read in its totality "and, by this, we mean that the Geneva agreement must be read completely, inclusive of the two basic understandings on important issues, which are outside the framework of the Geneva accord".

"The understanding on the question of symmetry between the two guarantors and implications thereof, and the efforts to continue for the formation of a new coalition government, through Mr. Cordovez, to have representation of all factions of the Afghan refugees and Mujahidin, due positive and proper representation to the refugees and Mujahidin, who are freedom fighters from Afghanistan is a must", he detailed.

"However, both the sides were in agreement that such a government must be formed and Mr. Cordovez will help in the formation of it, by initiating an intra-Afghan dialogue. This means that the new coalition government to be formed in Afghanistan will positively be representative", he said.

To a question, he explained that it would be up to Mr. Cordovez to decide as to what could be the better method, to accomplish the same task (formation of new coalition government). One method could be direct dialogue through another set of proximity talks or be could be on the basis of a "Loya Jirgah", of which Mr. Cordovez has hinted at.

"As far as Pakistan, Soviet Union or US or any other country is concerned, it is not for us to decide or to say as to who and what will be the future government of Afghanistan. We who are the friends of Afghan people are only there to help them in getting things going. Believing firmly in implementation of the Geneva accord in totality and as self-respecting and honourable nation, Pakistan, will positively take every step to honour its commitment", he stated.

"However, none should try to impose more obligations than what is contained in the Geneva accords and the memorandum of understanding", he said.

Referring to a news item published locally "I have been quoted as saying that Pakistan will stop all assistance to Afghan Mujahidin", Zain Noorani said and added, "this is incorrect". He said, "We will fulfill all obligations that we have taken upon in the Geneva accord and after becoming operative on May 15, 1988. If the Soviet Union or any other contracting parties have any positive complaint of infringement on the part of Pakistan, it is up to them to make a formal complaint to the UN monitoring force with full details, and it will be our duty to satisfy in the matter".

He said, while at home earlier, he had read in the Western newspapers that Mr. Najibullah, the so-called president of PDPA faction of government had lodged some sort of protest with UN monitoring force. "Now, it is very easy to shout from the house top and accuse the other party of infringement. I am sure, the UN monitoring force on going through the complaint will find it a pointless attempt to give a wrong impression to the international community against Pakistan. Pakistan fully intends to implement all its responsibilities on the basis of the fourth instrument and the memorandum of understanding, as signed, and all symmetry and its implications, as agreed upon by the two guarantors who are also super powers, and the understanding about formation of a coalition government plus our reservations. We have also given in writing to the UN Secretary General that we do not recognise the Najibullah Government, as a lawful or representative government of Afghanistan".

State Minister for Foreign Affairs said if the Soviet Union is no more assisting the Najibullah government, there would be no reason for the United States to continue to assist the mujahidin. "Pakistan, on its part would prefer it and we feel that the Soviet Union realises to help create an atmosphere of peace in Afghanistan, by withdrawing troops from Afghanistan, which is essential," he said.

He said that the same would fulfill the obligation under the signed Geneva accord "rather than pointing out a finger at Pakistan: It is for those who matter to stop the supply of arms to any individual faction of Afghan people. This is a simple case, as the physician can diagnose themselves".

He said the purpose of the Pakistan mission to Moscow necessarily was of goodwill. Besides preliminary discussion on certain points of bilateral interest, the details of further discussion are to worked out by a delegation of economic and trade matters from Pakistan, which is likely to proceed to Moscow soon. It would probably be led by the Federal Minister of Commerce and Planning, Dr. Mahbubul Haq.

Noorani Wants Pledge of Nonuse of Nuclear Weapons

BK2705155088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Zain Noorani, the minister of state for foreign affairs, has said Pakistan wants the nuclear-weapons states to pledge not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against nonnuclear states. He said the nuclear-weapon states should categorically state that they will assure not use nuclear weapons against nonnuclear states as part of the effort to achieve nuclear disarmament.

He stated this while talking to APP in New York before his departure for Mexico City on his way to Havana to lead the Pakistani delegation to a ministerial meeting of the nonaligned nations beginning tomorrow. The 3-day meeting is being held to prepare for the next week's UN General Assembly's special session on disarmament.

Zain Noorani said Pakistan welcomes the steps being taken by the superpowers for partial reduction in arms through mutual agreement, but we understand that world peace can be established only through disarmament on a global level. He said Pakistan will persevere in its efforts to safeguard the interests of the nonnuclear states until nuclear weapons are completely eliminated.

Iranian Oil Minister on Doubling Oil Exports

LD2705215088 Tehran IRNA in English 1748 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Islamabad, May 27, IRNA—Visiting Iranian delegation headed by Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari said Thursday that Iran had agreed to double its oil exports to Pakistan. Iran now exports daily 10,000 barrels crude to this neighbouring country.

Ja'fari who was speaking to members of Lahore Chamber of Commerce said that Iran is also ready to purchase rice, wheat and sugar amounting to over 100,000 tons from Pakistan. "Good prospects exist for mutual cooperation in all areas including commercial fields," he added.

The Iranian delegation also met with Punjab Governor Mohammad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi in Lahore on the same day, where the two sides called for further strengthening of religious, cultural, historical and regional ties between the two Muslim countries.

Abedi-Ja'fari in the meeting hailed the process of Islamizing the laws in Pakistan and expressed hope that this process would go on successfully.

The Iranian delegation arrived here Tuesday.

AFP: Sunni-Shi'ite Tension Continues in North

BK2705141888 Hong Kong AFP in English 1412 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Islamabad, May 27 (AFP)—Tension between Shi'ite and Sunni Moslems persists in northern Pakistan, where Sunnis last week looted several villages, the local press reported Friday.

A Shi'ite official said 20,000 armed men had attacked Shi'ite villages and killed innocent victims in the presence of Pakistani soldiers, according to the daily FRONTIER POST.

The paper added that a Shi'ite imam or priest, known as Sheikh Sahib, had warned the local authority head that he would seek Indian protection if peace were not restored in three days.

The minister for Kashmiri affairs and the northern border region, Syed Qasim Shah, acknowledged that the villages of Jalalabad and Sakwar had been looted, burned and razed by Sunnis of the Lashkar tribe and said that "Islam had never allowed massacres and looting of villages", the official Pakistani news agency said Thursday.

The mountainous Gilgit region, some 200 kilometers (125 miles) north of here, has been hit by violent clashes between the Shi'ite and Sunni sects in the past two weeks, prompting 10,000 Ismaelians and other Shi'ites to flee, local press reports have said. The Ismaeli sect is a Paris-based Shi'ite branch headed by the Aga Khan.

A Shi'ite religious official said the clashes had claimed about 100 lives. No official toll was released, but early unofficial reports put the number of dead at 25. Witnesses have said Pakistani security forces failed to step in and try to stop the violence.

Pakistan's Sunni Moslem government has sought to play down the gravity of the clashes for fear of alienating the Shi'ites, who make up between 15 per cent and 20 per cent of the population, analysts said. Shi'ites also make up the majority of the population of neighboring Iran, with which Pakistan maintains good relations, analysts said.

The violence was sparked when the two groups failed to agree on the end of the Moslem fast of Ramadan, the Shi'ites saying it should be Tuesday May 17 and the Sunnis putting it a day later.

300 Killed in Clashes

BK3005153088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1523 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Islamabad, May 30 (AFP)—Sunnites in Gilgit say that between 200 and 300 people died in clashes in the northern Pakistan town between Sunnite and Shi'ite Moslems, a diplomat returning from the area said Monday.

Official figures have put the number of dead at 40, while THE MUSLIM newspaper here puts the figure at 92 and Shi'ite leaders say more than 100 people were killed by the Sunnites in attacks on two villages near Gilgit earlier this month.

The diplomat said it was difficult to ascertain exactly how many people had died, but the area was still very tense and there were still many troops there.

The Sunnites were heavily armed, but the Shi'ites only had old Enfield rifles, he added.

The clashes around Gilgit, during which the police and Army took a "passive" role according to diplomats, influenced President Ziaul Haq's decision to sack the government and dissolve Parliament Sunday, citing a breakdown in law and order, observers here said.

An explosion April 10 at a munitions depot in Rawalpindi that claimed more than 100 lives, still unexplained, as well as inter-community clashes in Karachi had also played a role in the president's decision, analysts here say.

One of the reasons for the Gilgit clashes was an attack on a Sunnite mosque by Shi'ites shouting "Down with Saudi Arabia," and "Down with Pakistan," Sunnites told diplomats.

Other reports have said the trouble started over disagreements between the two groups on when the fasting month of Ramadan ended.

After the first confrontations, some 10,000 Shi'ites and Ismaelians, members of a Paris-based Shi'ite sect headed by the Aga Khan, fled Gilgit fearing attack by thousands of armed Sunnis who were converging on the city, diplomats said.

Pakistan's Sunni Moslem government tried to play down the incidents because the Iranian trade minister was visiting Islamabad. Pakistan has good relations with Iran, a predominately Shi'ite nation.

In addition, Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan, an Ismaelian religious official, will arrive here soon to oversee the repatriation of three million Afghan refugees living in Pakistan to Afghanistan for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

Sri Lanka

Indian Defense Minister Arrives on 3-Day Visit

BK3005082888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, has arrived in Colombo on a 3-day visit to Sri Lanka. He is accompanied by the vice chief of the Army Staff, General Rodriguez, and other senior officials of the external affairs and the defense ministries.

During his stay, Mr Pant will call on the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, and will also have discussions with important members of his Council of Ministers.

Meets Jayewardene 31 May

BK3105114788 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Visiting Indian Defense Minister K.C. Pant met President Jayewardene today. Mr Pant who arrived in the island yesterday on a 3-day official visit to Sri Lanka had discussions with several ministers including Gamini Dissanayake and Lalith Athulathmudali.

He also held a meeting with Ministers K.W. Devanayagam, P. Dayaratne, and C. Rajadurai and members of parliament from the Eastern Province at India House last evening.

The Indian minister reaffirmed his country's commitment to fulfill every aspect of the India-Sri Lanka agreement in the most fair manner and the spirit in which it was signed. During the meeting the two sides agreed that the democratic process in the North and the Eastern Province be achieved at earliest possible.

According to PTI report India had said that the issue relating to the role of Indian peacekeeping force [IPKF], its size, and presence in the country should not send wrong signals to the elements opposed to the accord. Mr Pant also said that the holding of elections in the north and the east and issues relating to the IPKF should be limited to the defined objectives.

Mr K.C. Pant will hold a meeting with minister of rural industrial development, S. Thondamon, at India House today. He will also have meetings in the evening with the defense secretary, D.S. Attygalle, and General Cyril Ranatunge of the Joint Operations Command. Later, he will address a news conference.

Delhi Notes News Conference

BK3105162688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, now on a visit to Sri Lanka, told a crowded press conference in Colombo this evening that the election process in north and east of Sri Lanka could be started by July.

Mr Pant said, however, the actual election can be held with the cooperation of the people of the area and urged the Tamil militant youths to return to the path of peace and democracy. The minister said the Sri Lankan Government has reiterated that detenues will be released and all militant groups granted amnesty if they laid down their arms and supported the India-Sri Lankan agreement.

In a joint statement, both India and Sri Lanka agreed that the strength of the Peacekeeping Force will be determined by joint consultations. As the situation improves, the forces not required will return to India in the near future.

Earlier in the day Mr Pant had a 3-hour meeting with the Sri Lankan president followed by a working lunch.

Comments on PKF Activities

BK0106034088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] The Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, has indicated during his discussions with the defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, that suitable changes and improvements in the package of devolution of powers will be brought about after provincial council elections are over in all the provinces.

As already reported, the defense minister said the electoral process in the north and east could start by next month. Our Colombo correspondent Plabon Majumder reports that elections in the other seven provinces of the country for the provincial councils are due to be completed on the 9th of this month.

Explaining the operations of the Peacekeeping Force [PKF], Mr Pant stated that the PKF has moved according to certain operational plans and smashed about 100 hideouts of the LTTE. He again clarified that these operations are not directed against any individual. The PKF campaign is aimed at a larger cause of bringing a settlement to the problem, he said.

The defense minister is scheduled to leave Colombo for New Delhi this morning.

Reportage on Terrorist Acts, Clashes 27 May-1 Jun

Minister's Clerk Killed

BK2805073688 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0658 GMT 28 May 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, May 28 (LANKA PUWATH)—Southern JVP [Janatha Vimukhti Peramuna] terrorists last night shot dead a personal clerk of Sri Lanka's Minister of Food Sarath Chandra Rajakaruna at his residence in a village in the Dompe electorate, about 40 kilometres east of Colombo, police told LANKA PUWATH.

They said the victim Abeynayake Mudiyanselage Piyasena was brutally gunned down by a burst from a T-56 automatic rifle, at 2200 hours (local time) yesterday.

Police said Mr Piyasena was asleep at his home at Arunagoda Kapiliwala in the Jirindiwela police area when terrorist gunmen had called out to him.

Mr Piyasena had come out of the house without switching on the lights, but he was hit in the head by a hail of bullets from the T-56 rifle.

He had been killed instantly.

Police said the gunmen had ridden off on a motorcycle, possibly a C-60 or a C-90.

Election Candidate Killed

BK2805094288 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0851 GMT 28 May 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 28 May (LANKA PUWATH)—Former Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) member of parliament for Rattota S.B. Yalegama and currently a United Socialist Alliance (USA) candidate for the provincial council elections in the Matale District was shot dead along with 2 others by southern terrorists at Matale town this morning, police told LANKA PUWATH. The police believe that the JVP is responsible for the triple murder.

The sources said that the 2 other victims, who were mowed down by the terrorists firing T-56 automatic rifles, were Mr Yalegama's nephew Mr Palitha Udugama and a photographer, Nimal Goonewardene. The triple murder was committed at 1030 hours (local time) today in Matale when Mr Yalegama was at a furniture shop making arrangements for a meeting to be held later in the day. He had also been instructing the photographer the angles to focus and take pictures at the meeting. Police said the gunman had walked up to Mr Yalegama and the rest of the group and fired at them to point blank range.

'Major LTTE Base' Attacked

BK2805112888 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Indian troops intensified their operation against the LTTE Tamil terrorists in the north and east of Sri Lanka by smashing the major LTTE base at Alampil in Mullaitivu District. The Tamil terrorists were reported to be retreating with the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] in hot pursuit. It was reported that house to house searches were carried out with indefinite curfews imposed in areas.

A hardcore Tamil LTTE terrorist, Elali, was shot dead, when he tried to escape from IPKF custody in Jaffna yesterday. The IPKF seized a large quantity of weapons from bases at Chunnakam, Chavakachcherry and Chempianpattu.

Meanwhile, General Vishwanath Sharma, commander in chief of the Indian Army, who was here on a 3-day visit, left yesterday. He also had discussions with Sri Lanka's Defense Secretary General Seypala Attygalle, the Joint Operations Command chief, Cyril Ranatunge, and the Army commander, General Nalin Seneviratnem

7 Killed at Candidate's House

BK2905072588 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0655 GMT 29 May 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, May 29 (LANKA PUWATH)—Seven persons were brutally gunned down late last night when a gang of about 30 JVP terrorists, some of them firing T-56 automatic rifles, attacked the home of a UNP provincial council candidate at Homagama, 25 kilometers from Colombo.

Police told LANKA PUWATH that the candidate K.W.G. Dharmasena was holding a discussion in his house when the gunmen burst in, firing their guns.

Police say (?among the victims of) the terrorists were Mr Dharmasena's 10-year-old daughter, his father, brother-in-law, and four security guards.

Mr Dharmasena, his wife, and two security guards were wounded and rushed to hospital.

Homagama is situated in Sri Lanka's Western Province where provincial council elections are to be held on June 2, 1988.

Security Forces Apprehend 9

BK2905094588 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0857 GMT 29 May 88

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, 29 May (LANKA PUWATH)—Nine southern terrorists, who were transporting a large stock of JVP leaflets in a vehicle, were apprehended at a road block at the Talawa junction in the Middeniya police area in Sri Lanka's Southern Province, by Sri Lankan security forces yesterday, official sources told LANKA PUWATH.

Meanwhile, police investigations into the 1.8 million [as received] payroll heist at Randeniya in Sri Lanka's Kegalle District reveals that the armed robbery was committed by seven JVP terrorists armed with a T-56 rifle, hand grenades and knives.

Having overpowered the security guards, they had robbed the payroll of the workers of the Balfour Beatty company and escaped in a Datsun half-truck, belonging to the same firm.

Police have found that, in addition to the 1.8 million in cash, the southern terrorists had also [word indistinct] one computer, one Motorola radio base station, one desk top calculator, and one telephone.

A report from Danthure in the Kadugannawa police area in the central hill country states that a gang of 15 to 20 armed unidentified persons had set fire to a sawmill, owned by H.P. Ariyasena, causing damage to the value of 450,000 rupees.

JVP terrorists had also set fire to a straw collecting centre at Ambalantota in the deep south late last Friday night, causing extensive damage to buildings and property.

A report from Hungama, also in the deep south, states that southern terrorists fired at a police mobile patrol yesterday. However, there were no injuries to police personnel.

6 Indian Soldiers Killed

BK2905102188 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0852 GMT 29 May 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 29 May (LANKA PUWATH)—Commercial banks in Jaffna defied a threat by the LTTE terrorists and remained open last Friday [27 May].

Official sources told LANKA PUWATH that adequate protection was provided to the banks by the Indian Peacekeeping Force.

Another report from Jaffna states that five LTTE terrorists were captured by Indian troops at Jaffna Fort, Annacottai and Puttur.

In the Wanni, an IPKF patrol observed some suspicious movements in an area south of Nedunkeni.

Later, the villagers living in the area informed the IPKF that two terrorists had ordered them to vacate their village.

Six IPKF soldiers were killed when the 20-ton vehicle in which they travelled ran into an LTTE landmine at Pachchenur in the Trincomalee District last Friday.

One LTTE terrorist Loganathan alias Rajah was killed by an IPKF patrol, 15 km south of Karaithivu in the Ampara-Batticaloa sector. A hand grenade and cyanide capsule was found on his person.

Bomb Explodes Near Colombo

BK0106080388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] In Sri Lanka, five officials were injured when a bomb exploded at Nuwara Eliya Town Hall in the Central Province. The officials had gathered there for election work. The Central and Western Provinces go to the polls tomorrow to elect 158 members to the two provincial councils.

Our Colombo correspondent reports that the JVP inspired violence is apparently directed at disrupting tomorrow's polls. Bombs were also thrown at a goods train and a passenger train near Colombo. A number of buses were set on fire and blockades set up on some roads leading to Colombo.

Communique on Security for Elections Issued

BK0106063488 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0602 GMT 1 Jun 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 1 June (LANKA PUWATH)—The police and the security forces have been given orders to shoot at sight any person engaged in the destruction of public property such as burning buses, burning and looting shops and intimidating any others to engage in such acts of destruction, states a government communique issued this morning.

There is no curfew in any of the areas in which provincial council elections are to be held tomorrow (2 June). Any announcements of curfew in these areas are part of the disinformation campaign of the terrorist groups and the (?public) is advised not to heed such announcements as all necessary arrangements have been made to conduct peaceful elections tomorrow. The police and security forces have been ordered to deal [words indistinct] attempting to disrupt the conduct of the polls.

The public is advised not to panic or be misled by terrorist disinformation and intimidation campaign. The public should exercise their legitimate democratic rights by casting their votes to the parties and candidates of their choice at tomorrow's elections.